

**BARBARA AMIEL**  
HOW MY LIFE  
GOT WIPED OUT



The global  
Islamist  
push to  
stifle free  
speech

Misha Glenny on  
bringing Karadzic  
to justice



# MACLEAN'S

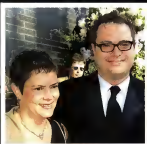
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## BARE NAKED BUST

The fight, the girlfriend, the  
coke arrest. How Canada's most  
lovable pop star fell apart. P.64



THE INSIDE STORY



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# 'The Order of Canada's selection process needs a review before it turns into a Cracker Jack prize'

## AN ABORTION DIALOGUE

THE DEBATE on abortion has for too long been ignored and pushed to the fringes of our society ("It's time to talk about abortion," *National*, July 21). Following Dr. Henry Morgentaler's appointment to the Order of Canada, your writer Andrew Coyne should be applauded for having the conviction to call for a (democratic) debate on a very contentious issue. In true Canadian fashion, we have remained silent and acquiescent on an issue that currently affects almost 160,000 women a year. Democracy means taking positions over whether or not we may offend someone somewhere. If Canada is truly a liberal democracy, then we must have a vigorous debate leading to consensus and legislation.

Steve Duncan, Volunteer Coordinator, House of Mercy, Sarnford, Ont.

WE'VE DONE just fine without succumbing to a debate on abortion. It seems to be the will of the majority to ignore the whole issue. In a free democracy you can vote for or against, or you can choose not to vote at all. Why should we legislate everything anyway? Decisions about abortion are intensely personal for those required to choose. Stomping out a majority conclusion on the matter is not nothing for those affected, except to intrude. Serve legislation for issues of privacy and safety.

Stephen Stone, Kanata, Ont.

I AGREE WITH Andrew Coyne that Canada needs to have a debate about abortion. At present, it seems we have weaker humanist ideals as the de facto state religion of our nation. The prevailing political elite, who appears to hold the arrogant position that it can declare the issue settled because it thinks its views are progressive, fervently holds to these beliefs and vilifies any who disagree. There is much to discuss without finger pointing and name-calling, or the patronizing way some would say they know better than those who do not at all view abortion as the best way to promote women's rights. I say let the dialogue begin.

Ehsaheb Kherkar, Winnipeg

WOULD YOU WANT your government to create legislation that would have state control over your body? The government does not

belong in the wombs of women and neither does a national religion.

Melanie Jewell, Capetown, E.C.

THE ORDER OF CANADA is the highest honour. It recognizes lifetime contributions made by Canadians who make a unique difference to Canada. Morgentaler has not made a lifetime contribution to Canadians. Rather he has taken away a lifetime of Canadian children who, had they lived, could have made their own unique contributions to Canada.

Rebecca East, Brampton, Ont.



MORGENTALER DOES indeed deserve the Order of Canada. He has taken a very dangerous practice and made it safe. He showed women's rights by fighting for access to safe abortions, and thereby put an end to the inhumanity that had been going on.

Phyllis Howland, New Leno, Ont.

WOMEN IN CANADA owe Morgentaler a huge vote of thanks for risking his life and profession to give us the gift of choice. It is the greatest gift we have been given since women were allowed to vote.

Rebecca Franklin, Moncton

## ORDER TO THE ORDER

COLUMBET ANDY LAMBIE is right in pointing out that the real problem in this debate over Henry Morgentaler's appointment is with the Order of Canada itself ("The real scandal is the Order itself," *National*, July

21). Given the controversy over his appointment, rather Lucien Lamé's naming of the Order in protest, and past recommendations of the Order, isn't it time to review the process of how a candidate is nominated, as well as those involved in the selection process? This needs to be done before the Order of Canada turns into nothing more than a Cracker Jack prize. It's supposed to represent dignity, honour, and admiration, but at the moment all it seems to represent is controversy and shame. Let's bring some order to all of this confusion.

Donna Goss, Ottawa

I DISAGREE STRONGLY with Andy Lambie's view on the Order of Canada, especially his absurd statement that "if the Order disappeared, many recipients would lose only a bullet point on their resumes." What if every institution took such a stance—not bothering to honour individuals because someone else will? There is no sympathy at all for people like Lucien Lamé—he's missing the point entirely. The Order of Canada is appropriately meant to be all-inclusive, and serves to recognize Canadians who have demonstrated exceptional service to humanity, often at great personal risk. I am proud of this noble Canadian institution, and congratulate Dr. Morgentaler on his well-deserved appointment.

Steve Angwall, Calgary

FIFTY-SEVEN YEARS ago, when I arrived in this country as a Jewish refugee, Canada was more than just a new home, it was heaven. Not once knowing how, I resolved to show my gratitude. Through volunteer work over many years I was saying, "Thank you, Canada." Last year, the greatest honour I could receive was bestowed on me: the Order of Canada. How else could my new country say thank you to mine?

Mary Magda, Harvey, N.B.

## GRAND SLAM GRUNTING

I AFFLAME YOUR head against tennis player Rafael Nadal's grunting throughout his match against Roger Federer at Wimbledon ("Is this necessary?" *Seven Days*, July 21). "Why anyone needs to grunt in hitting a ball that weighs between two and 2½ ounces has always puzzled me." Worse still, some play even—especially the Williams sisters—swear on every shot. Screaming should be pro-

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hibitory, small amounts of noise in a competitive setting are often useful, suggest and encourage dependability. It's also small and attractive. So it's a win-win for your yard and still delivering the high-end performance. Work it down to the end. And did we mention it was small? And attractive? In Ontario call 1-800-YORK and in western Canada call 888-310-YORK to learn more. Visit us online at [www.yorkhvac.com](http://www.yorkhvac.com)



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## 'The Queen should dip into her own savings to touch up the family home, like the rest of us'

not apparently worse than public cash, including about \$65 million paid to fix the backlog of home repairs and upgrades. Seems reasonable. After all, she's only worth an estimated \$650 million. Her 16-year-old grandson should dip into her own savings to touch up the family home. That's what the rest of us do, and I throw the portfolio of most

### THE KHADR CONFLAB

I WAS ON THE brink of ending my subscription to *Maclean's* until I opened the latest issue and read the editorial on accused terrorist Omar Khadr, who's been held in Guantanamo Bay since his capture in 2003 when he was 16 years old ("What Canada should do about Omar Khadr," From the Editors, and by numerous highly respected international groups, as being devoid of basic human rights. Even Bush's policies, such as former British prime minister Tony Blair, have successfully secured the release of British citizens held there, and is widely accepted that any proposed so-called trial by a U.S. military tribunal cannot be fair.

Tim Macfleck, London, England



"YES, OMAR KHADR is young," writes a reader, "but he's also a criminal with terrorist ties."

of us are considerably less than that here. The wrongs that a godless servant to do everything from patch the shingles to clean the loo. It's time for her to collect use her own money to fix up the palace, or move to a bungalow in Cumbria.

Don Philip, Lacombe, Ont.

### A DESERTING STORM

AMERICAN ARMY deserter Joshua Kay fled the U.S. and came to Canada to avoid serving another tour in Iraq ("Welcome dodger," Seven Days, July 21). Unlike Maclean's, which called Kay's being granted a second hearing in front of the Immigration and Refugee Board "bad news," I believe it is good news that Canada welcomes deserters like Kay. To label them as irresponsible is to neglect the complexities of conscience, the moral ambiguity of the war in Iraq and the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder. I encourage readers to read Joshua Kay's memoir, *The Deserter's Tale*, and decide for themselves.

Patty Proulx, Sudbroke, Sask.

July 20). I was beginning to think that I was the only person in Canada who could do this for what it is. The Khadr family and its ties to terrorism are rarely mentioned by the media these days—I was beginning to think I was imagining it. Yes, he's a young person, but he's also a criminal with terrorist ties. Trouble is, if he is tried in Canada, it bet the self-heated youth system will get involved and he'll be out on the streets in no time. Let's face the facts for what it is: Thank you for being bold enough to put things in perspective, and in print.

Louise Armstrong, Ajax, Ont.

PRIME MINISTER Stephen Harper's refusal to put pressure on George W. Bush to allow the young Canadian Omar Khadr to be returned home to Canada after his years of detention at Guantanamo Bay is disgraceful. This young man is the only Westerner and also the youngest detainee who remains in a prison that has been condemned by Britain's House of Lords as a breach of legal judgment,

### MACLEAN'S BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY MARGARET STEPHENS

#### Fiction

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- 3 **FEARLESS FOURTEEN** by John D. Williams 312
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LAST WEEK'S BESTSELLERS



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## A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF CHRISTIAN BALE

After a record-setting weekend in the United States, *The Dark Knight* star was in London, preparing for the European premiere. On Sunday evening, Bale allegedly assaulted his mother and sister in his suite at a luxury hotel. His family reported the incident to police on Monday, while the 34-year-old attended to his mother's injuries, followed by a screening of the film. On Tuesday morning, he named his wife, was arrested, released on bail, and issued a statement denying the charges.

## Good news

### Help on the way

On a visit to Afghanistan last week, U.S. presidential candidate Barack Obama said the United States must end its single-minded focus on Iraq and shift more troops to Afghanistan—at many as 100,000 more. Such a significant boost is precisely what's needed to deal with what Canada's top diplomat, Gen. Walter Natynczyk, recently called the "mounting security situation" in Afghanistan. Violence by the Taliban is so bad that more soldiers are now dying there than in Iraq, where the U.S. has four times as many troops. (Nine U.S. soldiers were killed in a battle with the Taliban last Sunday—exactly the lead of sniper attack first is sure to escalate unless our NATO partners increase their commitment to the mission.)

### Free at last

It was a week that will never be forgotten for Anthony McCann and the parents of missing soldier Madeline McCann. All three had been wrongly accused of heinous crimes and are now innocent. Madeline's mother spent two previous years alive pleading guilty to the armed sexual assault of a 15-year-old girl (a crime to which Paul Bernardo has confessed) and the McCanns have denied with the agony of being falsely accused in the disappearance of their own daughter (police in Portugal at last declared them this week, and a leaked report indicated that they were never considered serious suspects). But this is a lifeline at moment for all. Madeline's life was saved, and the McCanns still don't know who kidnapped their child.

deep funk. Its truck and SUV sales are tanking, and buyers are rushing for more fuel-efficient designs. But that didn't stop the automaker from unveiling its new Camaro this week, a 6.2-liter V8 motor of a sports car, in an age of soaring fuel prices, the move seems a bit like trying to sell steak to vegetarians. But there's logic at work here. The Camaro is the definition of Detroit muscle, fast, tough and great looking, and this is the most fuel-efficient Camaro ever.

## FACE OF THE WEEK



POPE BENEDICT XVI takes on a police cap in Sydney this week, where he apologized to victims of sexual abuse in the Church.

best. Considering the fact that it'll be made in Canada, there's a lot to like about this steam machine.

### Sanity prevails

The "Nipplegate" controversy is finally over. A U.S. court threw out the \$500,000 fine against CBS over the fleeting appearance of Janet Jackson's bare breast during the 2004 Super Bowl halftime show. We're not defending London on TV, but regulators were overboard, ignoring 30 years of precedent to punish CBS. Decency is important, but so is fairness and proportion.

was even more curious. He said the West must give up control over the IMF because the mortgage crisis has robbed the U.S. of the "moral" authority to lead. Wrong again. Madmen bubbles come and go, but that doesn't discredit America's vital role in the IMF. Martin seems desperate to land a punt with the UN or World Bank by bashing up the U.S., but his credibility is getting the worst of it.

### Zimbabwe's billions

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe and opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai have agreed

## Bad news

### Back so soon?

Two years out of the spotlight haven't helped to prime minister Paul Martin's instincts. In an interview this week, he said "if we had known then what we know now" he would've fought for Omar Khadr to be returned to Canada. Never mind that Khadr more so efficient alleging he was tortured at Guantanamo a year before Martin left office. If the PM didn't know that, he should have. But his criticism of the International Monetary Fund

to talk about the political crisis engulfing their nation, but as one believes Mugabe has suddenly developed a conscience. Meanwhile, the 34-year-old leader is buying time and trying to stall Western sanctions, announced after his septime stole June's presidential election. Meanwhile, the domestic political fight from that the central bank introduced a 100 billion Zimbabwean dollar note, which the government will only buy a lot of bread or flour oranges, will soon be worthless, ravaged by hyperinflation.

### No fun at the Games

Even with China's mangled up country, the situation is in advance of the Olympics is tense. This week, two people were killed and more than a dozen injured in two bus bombs in the city of Kunming. But someone at the Games could be the least of visitors' concerns. Medical researchers at Northwestern University are warning that the polluted air in Beijing could trigger heart attacks and strokes and even enough heart disease among people who have never had symptoms. This might become even worse the best seats are in a floor of a TV.

### Bombed & Blue

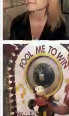
The Winnipeg Blue Bombers, with a record of 8-4, announced widespread drops of the CFL. Off the field, things aren't looking so good either. A controversial and costly plan to build a new stadium was passed by a group of visiting urban planners last week. Even the team's cheerleading troupe is in a bad mood. These coach resigned after a rash of former members of the squad in (and out of) their uniforms surfaced on the Web. This year, the beloved Blue and Gold are mostly black and blue. ■

# MITCHEL RAPHAEL ON STRONACH'S EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AND HOW A CARNY RUINED AN MP'S DAY

## DID SOMEONE HERE ORDER HANDCUFFS?

One of the Hill's top cartoonists catches people. Greg MacEachern, who has been in Belinda Stronach's executive assistant's morning on to work with lobby group Business Strategies Canada, home to Conservative pundit **poetess** **Tim Power**. The two have parted in an odd way after 2½ years (Stronach has said she won't be returning in the next election). They met while MacEachern was working for another MP. Stronach was in a sign room.

before an announcement, the first that she took the time to introduce herself to the humble staffer who was there to greet him: MacEachern's grandest moment with his former boss came just after Stronach had undergone a hysterectomy (the news of her latest cancer became public) and she had announced that she was going to run in the next election. Knowing that she was due to give a speech in Ottawa, and given all that had happened, MacEachern and his boss were buying their way up an alternate speaker. When Stronach gave word of it, she said, "What are you doing? It's going." After her last cancer surgery, MacEachern gave her a kissing book with a note: "In case you want to say hello on a Friday night." It was as trivial as Stronach's. It was as trivial as the results of her long-gestating efforts to get the publication of Don Martin's biography of her in which she answered a question about dating with, "I don't sit at home and wait on Friday nights." Working in Stronach's office was never like working for a typical MP. Every week it took MacEachern and one other staff member two hours to go through all of her invites. Rarely were there early morning meetings. "Breakfast



**BELINDA STRONACH** (middle left) is losing executive assistant **Greg MacEachern** (top left), **Peter Kent** (top right), **John Baird** and the Rev. **James O'Brien** (middle right), 30-year-old **MP Patrick Brewer** (bottom), seen in a non-PKIP eight activity for Stronach

time for working out." At one of several party gifts, MacEachern learned from the Newmarket-area company executive a package with a toy gun, handcuffs, rope, and a silly club to symbolize how he used to have to wait out for Stronach's safety. In fact, once he had to follow a man who was talking the MP until the police arrived to intervene. When the goodbye pack arrived, Hill would call the office to ask if anyone was

expecting a gun and handcuffs. The staff who answered the phone said yes, it was for MacEachern. When he learned of the exchange, MacEachern said, "You should have told security the items were for [Belinda]." ■

## HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON ELECTION SIGNS

"Re-elect" election signs have already been purchased for Environment Minister **John Baird** and are being stored at his home

in St. John's. The fact that signs are cheaper to order before an election campaign also have been a factor.

## UNITED CHURCH CONSERVATIVES

The Conservative candidate for Thornhill's, broadcaster **Peter Kent**, held a fundraising BBQ in the backyard of the Stronach-area bungalow he is finally moving into after over two years of renovation. **Stephen Harper** poses decorated a ladder under a low chandelier as folks could avoid bumping their heads. Kent just finished taking the place pointed, so he left the poster's paper draped that on the floor—a good thing because of the rain, which would have already stepped for the duration of the event. Guest of honour **Conservative Minister John Baird** and the break on the weather was "brought to you by Environment Canada," but it was also acknowledged that Kent may have received help from the Rev. **James O'Brien**, Baird, who is a member of the United Church, joked to the reverend he was happy to meet "the other" card-carrying Conservative in the United Church.

## BROWN'S BAD DAY

Ontario MP **Patrick Brown** confessed he has been having a difficult time with turning 30, a milestone he took days at the end of May. When the MP (who could easily pass for 32) was recently on the Calgary Stampede grounds, Capital City's **Queen's Year** and **Weight** game. The entry, a woman, paged him for 30 Brown paid a stuffed **Carson** George animal on commission. ■

**ON THE WEB:** For more Ontario updates or to contact Mitchell Raphael, visit [mitchelraphael.com](http://mitchelraphael.com)

# Are world trade talks about to collapse? ...I wish.



**ANDREW COYNE**

They're getting down to the short strokes at the world trade talks in Geneva. It's described as the "moment of truth" for the World Trade Organization, "make or break" time, a "last ditch effort." Should talks collapse, experts say not only will the so-called *Debs* road of negotiations be a no-show, but the WTO itself will be dissolved. Really? Well, here's hoping.

Personally, I have my doubts. Seven years after the *Debs* road began, the talks have crashed into any number of obstacles, final, irreconcilable deadlines, the last rites performed, the body prepared for burial, only to be brought miraculously back to life again. Yet after seven years of on-again, off-again yammering, trade is not a what free, notably in the area of agriculture, than it was when they started. Perhaps this is not accidental.

If you want a clue as to why this talks are in danger of falling, look no further than this country's declared negotiating position, which is that other countries should remove any barriers to Canada's agricultural exports. Forthwith, **Barbara** Canada should be allowed to keep its own web of quotas and tariffs in the dairy and poultry sectors—a crude price fixing racket in any other industry, but what in agriculture is dignified by the name of "supply management"—in perpetuity. **Gilling** was this week's talks, **Trade Minister Michael Fromer** announced the pretense that this position could somehow be softened.

But if you want to know why Canada persists with this two-faced policy, you'll be well advised to look to the WTO process itself. If it were just a matter of finding consensus among the organization's 152 member countries, that would be difficult enough. But a whole notion of negotiating trade liberalization is built on an absurdity, one that if it does not generate future, means that "success" is possible only in grudging increments.

Negotiations, after all, suggest a reciprocal yielding of concessions, in which each party agrees to give up something of value in trade, or to remove some threat or penalty from the other. In trade talks, for example, each side agrees to reduce the number of obstacles it has aimed at the other, to their mutual benefit. The process is necessarily complex and confrontational, as neither side wishes to give the other an advantage.

But trade talks aren't like that: each country's "concessions" are aimed mostly at itself. As economists have been explaining for more than two centuries, the tariff and non-tariff barriers a country uses to protect its industry

are trade—concessions are based and diffuse, and typically need to give up an amount unilaterally from a given reduction in trade barriers. Those who stand to lose, on the other hand—protected industries, and their employees—are concentrated, and have every incentive to organize against any such concessions. Politicians, even if they support free trade, are understandably reluctant to take them on.

But negotiate an agreement to liberalize trade with other countries, and you give politicians the cover they need. My hands are tied, they can then tell aggrieved interests, we have a treaty. Some even predict that in

how supply management will eventually be lifted off the government of Canada's immigration to all an act, designed to ensure consensus from other countries, even as it meets opposition at home.

That's all very well. But doesn't a very real and real choice, inasmuch as it encourages the general public to believe that trade liberalization, far from costly sacrifices on customers, are in fact a benefit, which should only be surrendered after a treacherous fight, at all? Arguing for free trade from protectionist positions would seem a dubious enterprise at best. Yet that has been the strategy for 50 years, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and then the WTO.

## After seven years of on-again, off-again WTO yammering, trade is not a whit freer

From foreign competition its most harm to its own citizens, driving up prices for consumers, enmeshing in inefficiency and creating specialisms in an area of comparative advantage. In other words, each country would gain from dismantling its trade barriers on its own, regardless of whether other countries did likewise. The idea that free trade must be imposed by a few heads has never been advanced by any reputable economist. It is entirely the invention of those opposed to the concept.

So why do we spend so much time and effort negotiating with the rest of the world that which we could do ourselves, sometimes? Traditionally, the answer has been that this was needed to solve a problem known as the public choice dilemma. The beneficiaries of

It is an open question whether we are any further ahead as a result, or whether the same results might have been achieved at much lower cost. In all the years we have been negotiating *Debs*, Canadian consumers, including the poorest of those, have been paying millions of dollars in needlessly high prices for the most basic food items, via tariffs that range from 386 percent for hares, to 245 percent for cheese, 241 per cent for milk, and 218 per cent for eggs.

Even when an agreement is eventually reached, as it likely to be, it is at most a slight easing of this extortion. It is likely to be a worthwhile return on our "investment." ■

**ON THE WEB:** For more Andrew Coyne, visit his blog at [www.mackinnon.ca/andrewcoyne](http://www.mackinnon.ca/andrewcoyne)



# Dion's strategy: make yourself the target



The Opposition leader's office, on the fourth floor of Parliament's Green Block, has all the old-style grandeur a man could want and none of the power. Plenty of space, rooms appointed in sandstone and oak, and

the constant ticking-clock knowledge that just down stairs, a real power minister meets a real cabinet (not the real business of government). "Lots of people have been in this office," Stéphane Dion told me. "Not all have managed to get down stairs."

A year and a half after he won the Liberal leadership, Dion still refuses to move into surroundings he insists on regarding as temporary. There is a small photo of Maurice King over the mantle and a bust of Wilfrid Laurier in one corner, but beyond that his walls are bare.

Of course, any office where Dion has spent the last year and a half must feel like a mine worth getting out of by now. He has no doubt an easy case to file. The personality he divided between the if-only blues and the if-only brights. The governing party runs a website devoted to the crutcher daily character assassination aimed at Dion.

"That, I want to be honest, pisses me off," he tells me, before the files and the NDP get to work against Stéphane Harper's Conservatives whenever they like. Dion knows that the Liberals will become somebody, because Harper has been worn out by election defeat, 2009. "I'm the first Opposition leader in Canada's history to have that power. It used to belong to prime ministers. The response used to be, 'I'll call an election when Alex tells me to.'" Alex Chisholm, that is, Dion charged, then smiled. "So I'll have an election when Justin tells me," Jeanne Krutcher, that is.

"We could have won, perhaps, in the context of the spring," he said. His caucus kept him from forcing an election last autumn,

he kept his caucus from forcing an election two months ago. He has come to believe he will face better odds if an election is about as late rather than coming from somewhere to surprise an electorate that has not had time to vote of Harper. "So we won't be choosing a government for the next four years, but a direction that could make the country for the next 40. In that case, they're likelier to choose us."

The issue, of course, is Dion's so-called Green Shift, a plan to phase in a 540-person carbon tax and use the resulting revenues to cut income taxes and provide a

way to save on my taxes. In Alberta, I'm used to my profits. So I'll declare my profits somewhere else. I have good lawyers, they'll work on that. But now, if I'm taxed in Alberta on my profits unless on my profits, I might as well go to my lawyers and meet to my engineers—and make investments to reduce pollution. Not in Ontario, but in Alberta."

I asked him about the Green Shift's plan for a \$350 in benefits for the parents of every child in the country. Is that a beloved endorsement of Harper-style baby bonuses over the day-care Paul Martin preferred? No. "The carbon tax will have a greater effect on people



## The Tories are attacking, but he's happy people are talking about the Green Shift

going to benefit. The Conservatives call it Stéphane Dion's Permanent Tax On Every thing. Dion has detailed replies to every question I put to him. He quoted the chief economist of Norway and economists like Jack Markle. The idea of doing a campaign, maybe that Permanent Tax On Everything, this once a politician, whereas the chief statistician of Norway would find a right answer.

Dion is unimpressed. "Mark Jaccard," another economist, from Simon Fraser University—"says something quite true. Do you remember the day you decided to take the lead out of your gun? No. Lead went out of your gun because somebody found a new recipe to get it out, it was put on the market, and that's what a carbon tax will do. It will make someone afford to afford."

How? By making the rich feel a little more expensive. And if most of the burden will be on the Alberta oil patch, then is persuaded that most of the private-sector investment will flow there too. Don't put himself in the position of the CEO of a hyperbolic company whose emissions are already taxed in Norway but not in Alberta. "So when I listen to reduce pollution, I'll invest in Nor-

way to consume more. When you have children you use more energy. So it's logical to give more help to families with children, but that doesn't stop us from having an early-childhood program that will be in the platform. The Green plan isn't our entire platform."

How will he pay for it? "We'll work with the manufacturing sector we have. We won't increase the GST."

I know Liberal MPs who are extremely nervous. There's a pile of thumb that says opposition parties should never make themselves the target.

Dion disagrees. "You want to know why I'm happy about this? I'm happy because people are talking about it. This policy scares people, but it's not. The question that says, 'Oh, people will never believe a politician who says I was once one of you.' I never answer. They'll just hear the first half and then walk away." I think we in the political-media class—people in your line of work and mine—are far more cynical than most people. A lot of people will vote because they believe in somebody. M

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells, visit his blog at [www.macleans.ca/colistswells](http://www.macleans.ca/colistswells)

INTERVIEW



## 'It's the truth of monogamy: we find meaning because there are limitations'

KATE FILLION TALKS TO THERAPIST/AUTHOR MARK O'CONNELL ABOUT 'MARRIAGE BENEFITS,' FIGHTING, AND WHY NOT TO REKINDLE PASSION

**Q** We're a marriage therapist and a clinical mother at Harvard, so you must have a good idea how many people are actually happily married. A monogamous, half of all marriages are going to end in divorce. Of the half that remain, very few are actually happy, healthy and satisfying. Couples all too often achieve a state of safe complacency where there's a great deal of distance and stagnation.

**Q** Your book is called *The Marriage Book*. (You're not married, what is the book?)  
**A** We grow and change and find meaning, not in a world of infinite possibility—and this relationship while some of monogamy—we find meaning because there are limitations. If we actually had unlimited possibility and control, nothing would ever mean anything. Some of us, as we go through life and create happiness, close off; we have these very

ways of relating that are designed to make us feel better but not to grow. Other people are willing to feel some of the discomfort from their mistakes, and that's the beauty of what it takes to grow. If we're open and honest with ourselves, and are willing to take risks and think about more about what we need than we should be, sustained intimacy can be an incredible crucible for growth. Ultimately, marriage can be a fusion for learning through a kind of creative constraint, an exploration of your own self as well as your partner because of the kinds of choices you have to make to stay together.

**Q** What's so revealing 25 years into a marriage?  
**A** I don't know that memories and experiences mean as much as they're not shared. Beyond that, some of the research has to do with the fact that your spouse is not your life, so every relationship, where you are in your life. It's a very common thing that [married]

people look for younger women, and to grow older, the simplest thing you are doing is making it more. By reading to that extent, you get to feel yourself.

**Q** What's the downside? That sounds pretty appealing.

**A** Ultimately, happiness grows not from trying to live to be happy, but from trying to live your life really well, and then happiness comes as a by-product. Based on my experience, someone designed to secure a certain degree of happiness by way of a trade-in or a quick fix doesn't have the same kind of staying power as the satisfaction and happiness that comes from living well and more honestly. I know men who've left their wives for younger women, and five years down the road, often, not always—they feel very empty and alone.

**Q** It's relatively permissible for women to complain about their husbands. Do men as much complain about their wives?

**A** The characteristic framework women use to complain about their husbands tends to be, a) why don't you give up? And b) why aren't you more emotionally available? My experience is that men back and forth, but about different things. For example, after children come into a marriage, men whose wives are emotional and sexual distance of their wives, about women not putting them first, the way they used to. I think men feel the emotional distance of women much more than is generally acknowledged. One thing that bugs me about this idea that men are basically emotional Neanderthals who need to be reassured is that guys can hide behind it. "Look, that's just who I am, I'm not a control freak, so, whatever." I'll just run on the TV rather than talk.

**Q** Why do couples usually seek therapy?

**A** They want to read something they're not getting, and both men and women feel that. Quite often, what they're not getting is that their spouse is not available, or of course women of long-term attachment, part of attraction involves finding people who you're going to be in a place that are the most vulnerable and difficult for you. Daily on, day after day of what feels so good that as time goes by, perhaps you've found someone you thought was really solid who they turn out to be stupid, or you found somebody you thought was full of life, and they turn out to be flighty. You find your way to the places that have embedded difficulties you don't see in the beginning. And by and by, rather than try to find a way to talk about them and put out your own responsibilities on the table, people do what they do naturally in the face of their own pain: they find ways to close off, either with lying, or camouflaging their partners by developing critical

ing them. So over time, a sense of distance, stagnation and loneliness evolves. That just takes people with serious, well-behaved, low-key kids to a marriage, more than anything else will bring people into my office.

**Q: Don't you think quite a few marriages simply aren't worth saving, the people are fundamentally incompatible?**

**A:** I do, actually. But I've only done so many marriages in terms of who we end up with. We all get separated by our early relationships.

So if you're a man and you have a mother who's cold, distant, critical, some of your paradigms of attachment is going to be toward a woman who has some of those qualities. For someone who has experienced trauma, finding a person who's going to treat them well is very difficult. This isn't a blaming-the-victim thing. All experience comes from our brain, so every time we learn something, our brain changes a little bit. If you have an early experience with somebody who treats you badly, you end up having a brain that is literally shaped around the template of that kind of attachment.

**Q: Is that one reason that people who leave a marriage often find a very similar partner to the one they just left?**

**A:** Yes. By and large, people make the decision to leave too early. More often than not, why they want to leave has less to do with what they think the reasons are—how they're disappointed in the other person—and more to do with the way the relationship causes them to be in touch with parts of themselves they're not able or willing to deal with. If you leave to get away from someone you haven't dealt with, you may find it again because you haven't looked at the underlying causes you were struggling with in the first place.

**Q: You suggest that people need to ask themselves, "Why am I married?" But don't we already do that?**

**A:** I think most people ask that question in a more theoretical sense, like, "What the hell should I do, shouldn't I? What's the point, anyway?" rather than asking in a real, up-to-the-minute way, "Why am I making this choice?" There's no doubt that it's controversial and safe to remain married, but you need to ask, "What is it about you that I want to be married to?" What is it about me that you want to be married to? I'm talking about the degree to which you are willing to know somebody else for who they are and not expect them to be different, willing to wrestle with the way we see everybody through our own lens, so all of our relationships are engaged around an assumption about how they should be.

**Q: Can you simply handily improve your marriage?**

**A:** If your husband is not so great about asking about himself in an open and honest way, "You could gather him all the time, which works to a point but isn't powerful. But another thing you could do would be to say, 'Look, I don't really trust you, but you have to understand that if you can't find a way to have these kinds of conversations with me, then I'm not addressing it. I'm going to go up to get up that need, and I'm going to find this elsewhere. I'm not talking about stuff, necessarily, maybe just that I'll look more to my friends.'"

**Q: I think many men would prefer that an attachment with a wife?**

**A:** If the husband truth is that a man really isn't that interested in having an emotional connection with his women he's married to, that's problematic. I think it's, in a dual-brain in terms of divorce, a deal-breaker in terms of having anything intimate. But in my experience, often the positions men take are not as desirable as they're made out to be. They're either interested—there's anger, but they're something else going on under the surface that leads to being closed off—or there's a way that men need more and don't know it, or want more and don't know how to go about getting it.

**Q: Can couples actually do all this without a referee, which is what a marriage counselor really is?**

**A:** I don't want to convey the notion that people have to be an therapist to make any progress. But there is something incredibly powerful about having a third person in the room. I've often thought it could put a blow up doll of myself in a chair and it would change to some degree the conversation a couple has, simply by virtue of the fact that they're aware of another person, and that draws them out of some of the deeper places where these conversations tend to get entangled. One of the problems in marriage is that there's something inherently resistant about all purely dyadic relationships. I actually think this is a problem with [one-on-one] therapy, too. When you're intimate with somebody over a long period of time, you tend to know every part of some of the more adult, reasonable parts of yourself, into despair, sometimes more childish, sometimes more injured parts, and the conversations tend to become [squared], more exclusively in those places. A third person can assist you to think, "Okay, wait, how is this happening? How am I being?"

**Q: Are there still moments of attachment as an adult as the awareness as each other like husbands or wives on a few number of marriage?**

**A:** The fact that something is more raw

doesn't mean it's more real. A lot of the screaming is a result of the frustration that comes from feeling hurt, or ignored, or misunderstood, but it's not necessarily a direct reflection of those deeper parts of each person that are interesting with each other. For example, if a man is screaming at his spouse about being disrespectful, the screaming is a result of frustration, the deeper, more vulnerable part of himself is lonely, and wanting to be known, and screaming is not a very effective way to talk about that. We tend to look at problems between people as bad things—and sometimes they are, irreconcilable



**'People say "I deserve love and happiness." I understand the feeling, but frankly, none of us deserves anything.'**

problems are difficult to connect with—but often, repeating problems reflect ways in which each person's old script has taken over with their partner's. These interaction problems are like personalities who we are. If we look at them as opportunities to learn more about ourselves, it's very to think about the idea we can take to make examples more worthwhile.

**Q: How adult working is to rethink the past self early on in the relationship. Why?**

**A:** The first problem is that a conscious effort simply won't work. It's like a corner-of-the-eye phenomenon; we react more quickly to something in our peripheral vision than to something in our direct vision. I think when you're trying to react purely something in the past, it's like when you actively try to remember a dream. You can't do it. But all of a sudden, you're going through your day,

something happens and it reminds you of the dream, and it comes back. That's how your brain takes you those old ideas. The second problem is that trying to rethink problems involves a constant asking of what's really valuable and enduring about a low and attachment. In those early 10 months of a relationship, lots of interesting studies show that the parts of the brain associated with addiction and obsessive-compulsive disorder light up in the same, pleasure centers of the brain as infatuation with romantic partners. That early sense of passion and addiction to feeling so good is completely in keeping with

what I think the culture is increasingly portraying. It's impossible to have explicit images of a kind of sexuality that is emotionally disconnected, it's all about stark images and positions, rather than real intimacy and vulnerability. At the end of the day, sex is an incredibly important part of connecting and also recognizing the passing of time. The fact that you can continue to make love with somebody you get older is a great antidote to feeling that you're becoming obsolete. But if your view of sexuality is that it should always be along the lines of the images we see in popular culture, you don't

**A:** Yeah. That's a part of it. But I also think it's impossible to separate that from our culture of expectation about what people are supposed to look like. If your experience is that everyone is supposed to look like George Clooney, your husband is not going to be as attractive as you have a more natural air of attractiveness about what people are supposed to look like in that get older. Another thing women in particular talk about not feeling sexual, in part because they feel they're going to be asked from the image of what attractiveness is that it's hard to feel desirable. And for women who don't feel desirable, it's often hard to feel desire.

**Q: You talk about the need for radical acceptance, replacing goodness with gratitude. How can each of you do that?**

**A:** Not easily. The underpinning is letting go of the belief that you're entitled to a certain kind of life. People say, "I deserve love," and "I deserve happiness." I understand the feeling, but frankly, none of us deserves anything. We have to be more realistic about the world. Everything we choose in an instant. My own dad died when I was five, and as a result, I've carried with me the knowledge that there are no gods. The people you love will perish, eventually or suddenly. So much of our sense of goodness comes from not accepting that truth, from an inability to tolerate the vulnerability that comes from recognizing how little control we have.

**Q: You write, "Find your resentment." Isn't one of the problems, though, that couples are too in touch with their resentments?**

**A:** I'm talking about finding your resentment and really acknowledging what they're about. Resentment is, among other things, a way of not feeling regret or loss or sadness or limitation, and also a way of not letting go or wanting. The position, "I'm pissed off at you that you don't give me this," is, oddly enough, quite often a way of not being in touch with what you want. You go right to the frustration rather than trying to find the vulnerability of needing and wanting. Try two different phrases: "So've said a jerk, you never listen to me!" versus "I really did feel lonely sometimes that I don't get to talk to you." It's the same conversation, but when you say the former, there's a way that I've said myself off from the vulnerability of wanting something I might not be able to get. Whereas asking for what you want feels riskier and more vulnerable.

**Q: Are there any categories of bad behaviors that mean a marriage is not worth saving?**

**A:** If I had to come up with one, absolute deal-breaker, it's a partner's complete unwillingness to wrestle with truths. Without the willingness to struggle, why can married?

what our culture says we should have, we should feel great all the time? So we think romantic passion is problematic of what is meant to really live somebody.

**Q: But it's biologically programmed to change?**

**A:** Yes. If you look at people's brains a little down from these early days, there's still a lot going on, but in different directions, the ones that have to do more with attachment and making memory. [These brain phases] can be incredibly volatile, intense and quickly, but we don't need to think of them as extensions of what it means to live somebody instead, we think of them as necessary compromise we have to put up with after the passion wears off.

**Q: How big a problem is sex for the couple who come as one?**

**A:** It's not that people land with that, but it's very common that after we talk for a while, it's on the table as a central issue. But I think that's going on usually involves larger conflicts and difficulties in a relationship.

**Q: You say one way to have a better marriage is "find sex." What do you mean?**

have access to that attitude. My anecdotal experience is that a lot of adults are not only consuming porn but find it quite addictive, and it affects the marriage. In addition to airbrushed images of bodily perfection, there's also a quality of obsessive mania that goes along with watching pornography for a long period of time. I sometimes fantasize in a repetitive way that causes people to be mislead to their feelings, not to say of fantasy and excitement, and all the things about sex that make us feel more alone. That's undercurrent.

**Q: The standard answer is, "Frequency doesn't matter."**

**Q: How much sex is enough for a happy marriage?**

**A:** It's hard to predict to put a number on it, but I've never met somebody who's having sex three or four times a year where there wasn't something amiss.

**Q: Isn't it simply the case that people get fat, or go bald, and just aren't physically attractive to their partners anymore?**



## \$2.4-MILLION RAISE?

**'Toronto 18' informant Mubin Shaikh ups his price**

**BY MICHAEL FRISCHLAUER** • Two years ago, when Mubin Shaikh first went public with his tale of last-terror espionage, he was counted down his compensation. He told Canada's RCMP paid him a cash incentive to spy on the "Toronto 18," a group of young, tough-looking Muslims who liked to party in the know (and allegedly plot jihad). But Shaikh wanted, over and over, that cash was not his motivation. He went undercover to protect his country and his religion, not to line his pockets. "I didn't do it for the money," he said shortly after the arrests. "I'm not going to negotiate with the lives of Canadians."

But Mubin Shaikh is turning his opinion. Canada's most famous informant—the public face of the nation's largest undercover terrorism trial—is asking for a \$2.4-million raise.

In a two-page letter referred to as the Mas-

tas, Shaikh vows to abide by a long list of conditions in exchange for the hefty, "no tax" payment (\$1.7 million, minus the \$300,000 he's already received). His promises include no more alcohol use, no more drug use, and no hook or movie deals. The 32-year-old also pledges to "aggressively defend the residence and vocally support the rule of the agencies involved" in the case, including the RCMP and CSIS, Canada's spy agency. "This document intended to be a formal request for further compensation that is 'deserved and proportional' to my involvement" in the investigation, Shaikh writes.

The case continues to unfold slowly. Shaikh, a married father of five, does not go so far as to say he will abandon the case if the cops don't cave. However, one of his proposed conditions is a promise not to "bring any legal action against the CSIS/RCMP."

The authorities have yet to respond to Shaikh's letter, but this much appears certain: police and prosecutors are growing increasingly impatient with their prized informant.

**YTD LIKE to know who in the courtroom is there free of charge?**

The timing of his extravagant demand was especially bold. Shaikh sent his note to the Masnadas on June 4, just days before his widely publicized testimony at the trial of a messenger charged in connection with the last. "It remains unclear a month or so later if I'm not doing this for the money," Shaikh says. Lawyer Michael Moon, who represents Steven Crowder, one of 10 adults still facing charges. "The Crowder's defense, patriotic witness, is keeping his price, depending on what trial he's at."

Indeed, then the second case Shaikh has requested a psychic. In the meantime, he happily accepted \$75,000 to influence the group. He bagged the money, but he ended one of the alleged leaders, and famously joined the suspects of a two-week winter camping trip that prosecutors now believe was the genesis of a sophisticated plot to detonate truck bombs in downtown Toronto. But in June 2006, days after the high-profile crash, Shaikh would look to the RCMP and

asked them to boost his reward to an even \$150,000. They agreed.

Two years later, it's hard to imagine a repeat outcome. Despite his wide media clout and notoriety thanks for his espionage, Shaikh is proving to be as much of a Crown liability as an asset. As his witness goes, his business more than his witness. Since the arrest, he has sued at least two national TV, prickled the innocence of some of the accused, accused several of the newspaper's dimes, and pleaded guilty to threatening two 12-year-old girls. But his recent testimony at the youth trial, he also opened with prosecutor John Howard, who took the rest of day declaring Shaikh a credible witness and grilling him on some alleged inconsistencies in his statements. Simply put, the Crown would own back made of badging facts to prosecute the Masnadas. Shaikh's price, Shaikh wants one step further, asking, "I request the same support deserves to be enjoyed."

And now, after all that, Mubin Shaikh wants more cash—more than 30 times the



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dollar figure he originally agreed to, "You have to be concerned about the motives of an informant whose sole source of income has been taxpayer money," says defense lawyer Dennis Foley, whose client, Fahim Ahmed, faces more charges than any of the accused. "And if Mr. Shalh's sitting for more money, then it causes further concern that his sole motivation is giving evidence a financial reward."

This case, of course, already has a controversial history of financial rewards. A second informant, an unidentified businessman who is now facing an FBI witness protection program, was paid at least \$4 million for his covert assistance—and only after the Mossad asked him down from his original offer

go anywhere near a list of a mystery. At the time, I had no idea what this was going to entail." Only now, Shalh says, does he realize the full carnalities of his co-operation.

"This has shaped the rest of my life. The next 10 years are going to revolve around the stuff I have become a full-time job, and I would like to know who in the courtroom is there free of charge. I'm sure the judge isn't there because of his love for justice. I'm sure the media isn't there because of the right for the public to know. And the lawyers aren't there because they're creating for justice. Every body is there for a dollar."

## 'IT CERTAINLY MAKES A MOCKERY OF HIS "I'M NOT DOING THIS FOR THE MONEY" LINE,' SAYS A LAWYER



TEKORON ON TRIAL: An RCMP officer with bomb-making equipment seized during arrests; supporters of suspects leave courthouse

of \$5 million. At the time, Shalh had no idea the other spy would let alone the fact he was being paid millions of dollars. After the trial, when he did find out, Shalh claimed to have no regrets. "I've got no complaints," he said in February 2007. "I'm not thinking 'Oh damn, I should have asked them for more.' Nope. I'm happy with everything."

So what changed? Why is he suddenly so anxious to fix his bank account by \$2.4 million? His answer: a tip. Shalh's self-insured, uncorroborated and rife with references to the Queen. "My response is simple," he said, when contacted by Maclean's. "This case is huge. It is history being made—legal history, Canadian history and Islamic history—and the burden it has on a person is great."

Shalh's words—again—that money had nothing to do with his original decision to become a police agent. "A person who does things for money, money is the number one thing right from the beginning," he says. "But when I went into the first negotiation I didn't

fully whenever the subject was mentioned (or made). "That will never change," he says. "I am ordered by Allah to do the right thing, to tell the truth." He still believes in the evidence, and he still believes that most of the accused deserve to spend many more years behind bars. But he also believes that his own name and effort—just not his opinions—should come out as a far prize. "I do not think I deserve more," he says. "Basically, the money is far more because I didn't go into witness protection. What if I need to relocate the rest of my family because my house is known? The cops wouldn't even put a death toll back in my

So, Shalh knows what's coming. He has no doubt that money in the Muslim community, including some of the suspects' families, will come from the agency. The money-fueled insider wants to buy more time to meet up his name. He makes the thought: "These people are innocent, these are innocent," he says. "I'm not a radical's butchery what the community thinks—or anybody else. People who do the right thing should not be moved by what people say or what people think, because the right thing is the right thing. And if the whole community isn't on the right thing, then the whole community is wrong." ■



### THREATS CAN STILL GET THE JOB DONE

"I am disappointed that this matter is being portrayed by some in the media and the political arena as something other than the successful prosecution and peaceful resolution of an otherwise peacefully volatile situation."—Gerrit Prohivietal Police Commissioner Julius Furlong on criticism that he threatened a police protest leader Sholeh Ezzat last year. "The cops are not a threat to your reputation," Furlong warned Ezzat. "I can destroy your reputation."

# JANINE KRIEBER HAS SOME IDEAS SHE'D LIKE TO SHARE

Our most intellectual political spouse has views on the military, 9/11—and she may be unusually qualified to hold them by JOHN AXONIS

When she comes to, Janine Kriber has no trouble looking the part of the classic political spouse. Wearing an irreplaceable cream-colored poncho, Stephens Dine's wife decodes the front staircase at Stormovoy the former Ottawa resident of official Opposition leader, to greet her return with a doberman's nose. Shouting away Kyoona, Dine's five-year-old son's Shiba Inu, she settles on a sofa to sip cognac and submit to a morning interview.

But her answers soon develop an urgency that she will be a traditional wife of choice: charitable causes and party fundraising. Kriber may be the Liberal leader's spouse, but she is only on leave from her professor's post at the Royal Military College, Saint-Jean, the Department of National

Defence academy southeast of Montreal, where she taught future officers courses on the nature of terrorism and how to fight it. She continues to coach international security issues part time, in association with Quebec City's Saint-Jean University.

Asked how her role as a politician's wife seems to be getting major limits, what she sees now says about her area of expertise, Kriber says a surprisingly sweeping declaration of personal independence. "I have no constraints at all," she says, "to think what I want to think, and to express my views and my opinions."

And so she expresses a few. For instance,

what she sees, or what she hears when people were speaking about Canadians, is we don't have big trucks, big tanks, big airplanes. They know that they're doing it."

Among the places Kriber has visited these big guys abroad in Afghanistan. She travelled to Kabul with a group of academic experts in the spring of 2004, before Canadian troops shifted south to Kandahar. That, of course, was long before her husband became Liberal leader and she found herself plunged into a more official role for which she had never prepared.

So far, her profile as Dine's partner has generally been low. Liberals are slowly getting to know her, but she's hardly a household name yet or a widely recognized face. That gives her a certain flexibility. Multi-tasking with Dine in Montreal has felt, during the by-

graduate journal. "She says exactly the same thing every day."

So far Kriber has largely escaped controversy, whether about her personal habits or professional opinions. "They have enough to work on going through what Stephen has written," she says, of the Conservative opposition researchers, who must surely have collected her academic papers to comb through for controversial points. In fact, Dine's facts might find them padding their. After all, Kriber has worked largely within the defence and intelligence establishment, making her a far less tempting target for Tories than if she was an outside critic.

She took up her interest in terrorism as a student in the 1990s, intrigued by what she saw people like groups like Germany's Rote Armee Fraktion and Italy's Red Brigades, or, indeed, the Front de libération du Québec.

counterterrorism," she says. "And very soon I started to understand that the only good strategy of counterterrorism is intelligence, and I started to look at intelligence methods, intelligence organizations."

By the late 1980s, she had gained enough recognition to be hired to work on a review of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act. She and Dine were married in 1987, after nearly a decade together, to facilitate Janine's relocation, but Dine would not be recruited from Montreal academia to head the position until late 1995, after the close off in the Quebec referendum. Kriber's close-up study of the post-Cold War civil wars that confronted CSIS, and other Western intelligence services, shaped her reaction to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. She stops short of blaming them entirely on intelligence failure. "There's no single cause of any social event," Kriber

who would be the most enemy, despite the fact that all the experts were saying, "Look at the Islamic world—there is a problem."

By now, however, she says CSIS has adjusted Her informed understanding of what the federal agency has assessed its recruitment efforts into what she calls "cultural context areas," in a bid to combat terror. "There was a problem in our security culture for people who were not white, with Canadian citizenship for many generations," she says. "But the culture is changing, or it has changed."

As a female academic, Kriber has long sat on the boards of Canadian universities and defence agencies. Most of her research is in political life. However, Kriber is tracing the trail toward nearly three decades ago by Margaret McTeer, wife of former Tory leader Joe Clark. When Clark shocked the surprise leader of the Progressive Conservatives in 1976,

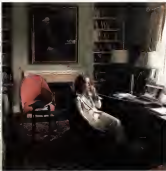
McTeer's decision to leave her own name and maintain her husband made her controversial. It's no surprise that she has watched the evolution of the political spouse's role with keen interest. In a recent interview, she pointed to examples of high profile wives who kept up careers while still playing their hands behind powerful political partners—Eva for British prime minister Tony Blair's wife, Cherie Blair, who promoted her while he was in office.

McTeer regards Kriber as a woman particularly notable because of her focus on terrorism. "This is completely new," she said. "No other political spouse has been an expert in this area, and it's a broader and opening area." Told that Kriber claims the freedom to say whatever she wishes on the subject, McTeer wonders if she is being overcautious. "She's a sophisticated enough individual to know there are limits."

Kriber credits her mother with instilling in her the sense that no career path was out of bounds. She grew up in Alma, Que., in the picturesque region near Lac Saint-Jean, the daughter of an Austrian immigrant father, Hans, and a French Canadian mother, Thérèse. Her father, a photographer, got lost in 1942. Working as a waitress, Kriber's mother became a still-life photographer herself, while she raised two children: a boy, she later took up journalism, contributing to Quebec City's



KRIEBER (seen with the dog, Kyoona, and a stuffed lion from Dine's office) has had a low profile as Dine's partner



**"THIS IS COMPLETELY NEW," SAYS McTEER. NO OTHER POLITICAL WIFE HAS BEEN AN EXPERT IN COUNTERTERRORISM.**

election in which the Liberals lost the Ontario seat riding in the NDP. She was able to slip out of a crowded dinner, all but unattended, for a glimpse in the night. With Dine, inside swirling the room, the lone woman in black pants, smiling under an umbrella just outside the door, wasn't exactly under the typical pose of political wife in campaign mode.

She still smiles. An air of her has been inside the Harper government office. She admits she "tried to hide it," and although she settles at the line of questioning, her answers shake from previously open to suddenly more reserved. Dine's Dine? "He made it. What about her daughter, Université de Montréal under-

her in Canada. She was there, in particular, about 2005." Middle-class kids in very good families who seemed to political violence "I wanted to understand," she says, "why they turned murderers."

The answer she arrived at? "Biology." She says a commonality among religious fundamentalists, far-left radicals, and extreme nationalism. Her exploration of the 19th-century ideological world led her to consider how best to combat it. "I was hired by the military college and I started to look at the other side, the security,

reflections. But the problem was that as soon as the Civil War ended there was a sort of ultra-optimistic mind—she was in over, then we're not any war anymore."

Can't intelligence and defence spending after the collapse of the Soviet Union, she contends, proved short-sighted. Part of the problem was that the intelligence agencies themselves were slow to zero in on the next big danger. "There was no Internet back then, so no papers to read," she says. "It was an era of silence to all these organizations

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN AXONIS

La Solad and Radio Canada. When the family moved to Quebec City, she switched to government communications work, eventually as a cabinet press officer in Robert Bourassa's Liberal provincial government. "She was a big influence," Jeanne Krüger says. "It was obvious my sister and I could not go through life without a camera."

After a broken engagement, she started international relations at Laval University, where she met Dion in 1978. It was a romance grounded in their shared intellectual interests, and they went together to the famous Sciences Po graduate school in Paris to earn

public law. "When he has an idea, it's very hard to resist him (stage it)," she says. "You need to really convince him with a very right argument." The notion that Dion is rough-around, perhaps a bit of a brute, goes back to his days as Jean Chrétien's cabinet, when he developed a reputation for the sometimes logic he applied to pushing his ideas. The most contentious of all, of course, was his Clarity Act, the law that set new rules for any future Quebec referendum or subsequent secession negotiations.

Championing the act, which passed in 2000, led to Dion's vilification by Quebec nationalists.

Krüger views Anne Chrétien as her model, but their public personas are clearly different. Regarded as influential behind the scenes with her husband, Madame Chrétien's image remained that of a dignified matriarch, subtly involved in a few straightforward charities. Krüger's career was her apart, as does her decision to keep her name. Even the touching story of how Krüger and Dion adopted their daughter, Jeanne, from Peru, is a twist on the traditional family portrait.

Times are curious about going after Dion's personal life, but this postcard for contrast with his family with Stephen Harper's has been

THE POWER COUPLE, with a supporter after the Liberal leadership win, on a whale-watching tour and (right) with their daughter, Jeanne



## HER CAREER SETS HER APART, AS DOES HER PUBLIC PERSONA. EVEN THE TOUCHING STORY OF ADOPTING JEANNE FROM PERU IS A TWIST ON THE FAMILY PORTRAIT.

their P.O.s. Friends say their relationship has always included a good deal of vigorous debate on various topics. Although Krüger does not sit on an Liberal strategy committee, she is a major factor in her husband's deliberations. "She plays a very active role," says one senior Liberal official who knows the couple well, "in suggesting people he should meet, themes he should explore." Her private views, though, aren't often shared outside a small circle. "They do talk policy a lot," said the official, "but these conversations take place in the privacy of their house."

If that makes their relationship sound more a matter of friends or business, Krüger's description of her husband suggests otherwise. Asked what she would tell someone who was having trouble grasping a feel for Dion's personality, her immediate response is perhaps surprising. "The first words that come to my mind after this question is 'romantic.' He is. He is. You should see the way he always sends me the ads, with a line of regret, 'Oh, I don't have my notebook, my laptop.' It was for the 20th anniversary in April."

Her next point fits snugly with his

its. "The bitterness of their attitude led Krüger to temporarily wear all contemporary politics and withdrew into the academic world. She avoided newspaper subscriptions and even all TV news." The *Harper* part, she recalls, "was when some people in Quebec started to treat tel phone as a sin, because I know how he loves Quebec, how he loves Canada."

That tough period seems to have persuaded Krüger and Dion for his rocky run so far as Liberal leader. After his surprise win as the party's Montreal leadership contest on Dec. 7, 2006, Dion was targeted by Tory attack ads that cast him as a vacillating, weak leader. His personal ratings are consistently low, and his current proposal for a carbon tax brought on another wave of derision, though its holdiness also largely got to rest any notion that he is indecisive. Krüger says Jean Chrétien, wife of former prime minister Jean Chrétien, cautioned her about the last life of an Opposition leader. "She told me to be very patient and to not worry," Krüger says. "She warned me that Stephane would be the object of a lot of discussion. And she said, 'Don't worry, look what happened to Jean—he became prime minister!'"

discussed. A key point of differentiation: Harper's wife was known as Louise. Today only up to a election day in 2006, after which she soon switched to Louise Harper. The Conservatives will likely try and contrast the Harper and Dion in the role of Canada's first family and will portray the Harpers (generously) as traditional, nuclear and ordinary. "Tory blogger Stephen Taylor wrote last year. On the question of Krüger's name, Taylor added: 'Does the maiden name play with ordinary Canadians? The Harpers are banking that it doesn't.'"

It remains to be seen if Conservatives decide to make Krüger a target, or to what degree Liberals try to build her up as an asset. For her part, Krüger says she maintains a healthy balance. She splits her time between the Ottawa political follow-up, and the home life and Dion made for themselves before politics in Montreal. As a political neophyte, she says she enjoys the capital's unrelenting focus on government and partnership. "But Montreal is more diverse," she adds, "and actually you speak more about art, performances, traffic." And there's no need to worry about anybody seeing you light up. ■

*Journey to Rwanda — Year Days*



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# STIFLING FREE SPEECH—GLOBALLY

**A coalition of Islamic states is using the United Nations to enact international 'anti-defamation' rules BY LUIZA CH. SAVAGE**

Amra Fatima, a poet, suspected Pakistani diplomat in Washington, sat at the front of a crowded Capitol Hill hearing room on July 18, carefully examining whether a man seated a few places to her left on the panel should be judged. The occasion was a panel discussion convened by a group of congressmen to educate their colleagues on the issue of religious freedom, and the man was Canadian Karam Levaht, who in February 2006 republished Dutch cartoon of the Prophet Muhammad in his own defamatory magazine, the *Western Standard*, which resulted in, among other things, two complaints of "discrimination" before the Alberta human rights commission. One complaint was withdrawn, but the other remains. If it is upheld, Levaht could face a large fine, a lifetime ban or not to talk about "radical Islam" disparagingly, and be forced to issue an apology. If Levaht does not comply with these orders, he could be imprisoned for contempt of court.

Fatima tried to find the right words to explain the depth of the emotions at stake. "The cartoon was really, really bad Muslims around the world," she told an audience that included congressional staffers as well as officials from the departments of State, Justice, and the media, and various human rights advocates, including a pair of Muslim clerics in bright robes. "These are certain things that should not be treated." Ultimately, though, this was concluded that a journalist should be, as she put it, "left the beak." Her government has not been so generous.

Pakistan and the other nations that have banded together in the Organization of the Islamic Conference have been leading a remarkably successful campaign through the United Nations to evolve the international law prohibition against "defamation of religions," particularly Islam. Their aim is to compel every governments around the world to punish anyone who commits the "heinous act" of defaming Islam. Critics say it is an attempt to globalize laws against blasphemy that exist in some Muslim countries—and that the movement has already succeeded in

suppressing open discussion in international forums of issues such as ethnic genital mutilation, honour killings and gay rights.

The campaign gives a new global context in which to view Levaht's conduct and other attempts to censor or punish Canadian commentators, publishers and cartoonists. Human rights cases were brought against this magazine for its October 2006 publication of an excerpt of a book by Mark Steyn that, the complainants alleged, "insulted Canadian Muslims to hatred and contempt." David Haines, a former chief of strategic planning for the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, was used for remarks he made on the Ottawa radio station CFMT, linking a Canadian Islamic group to a controversial American organization. And in May, a Nova Scotia Islamic group filed complaints with Halifax police and the province's human rights commission against the Halifax *Globe and Mail* for a cartoon it considered a hate crime.

Pakistan brought the first "defamation of religion" resolution to the UN Human Rights Council in 1999—before the attacks of 9/11 and a resulting "backlash" against Muslims. That first resolution was entitled "Defamation of Islam." That title was changed to include all religions, although the roots of all subsequent resolutions have centered on blasphemy laws. These resolutions have passed the UN Human Rights Council every year since the first was introduced. In 2005, the delegate from Yemen introduced a similar resolution to the UN General Assembly, and it passed, and it has every year since, without a dissent. In March, the Islamic countries were successful in introducing a change to the mandate of the UN's special rapporteur on freedom of expression—an office whose mandate the world investigating and reporting on censorship and violations of free speech. In new "report on instances where the abuse of the right of freedom of expression constitutes an act of racial or religious discrimination." The text requested to be a focal point of the UN World Conference Against Racism next year in Geneva (a gathering Canada plans to boycott after the 2004 meeting in Durban devolved into screaming exchanges over Israel).



LEVAHT (top) calls the anti-defamation movement "soft jihad." Below (right) he is taken out about remarks on debate

The trend Islamic rights advocates worried for centuries now, beginning with the language used. If the nature of "defaming" a religion is a little unfamiliar, that's because it's a major departure from the traditional understanding of what defamation means. Defamation laws traditionally protect individual people from being maliciously harmed by the dissemination of falsehoods. But "defamation of religion" is not about protecting individual believers from damage to their reputations caused by false statements—but about protecting a religion, or some interpretation of it, or the feelings of the believers. While a traditional definition of a defamatory law is that the accused was merely telling the truth, regardless of defamatory nature, compelling claims on the truth, and one person's religious truth is only another's apostasy. "Truth" is to declare in such cases. The subjective perception of insult is what matters, and what puts the whole approach on a collision course with the human rights regime—especially in contrast with an official state religion.



"Islamophobia is a problem. But that is not a practical solution, and it destabilizes the human rights agenda," said Angela Wu, executive law director for the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a public-employee law firm based in Washington that is dedicated to protecting the free expression of all religious traditions. And, she further told the congressional briefing, "The defamations of religion protects ideas rather than individuals, and makes the state the arbiter of which ideas are true. It requires the state to sort good and bad ideologies." By doing so, she said, the approach "violates the very foundations of the human rights tradition by protecting ideas rather than the individuals who hold ideas."

In a written brief, Wu said that the resolution seek to "inhibit the kinds of anti-blasphemy laws that exist in countries such as Pakistan. The UN resolutions 'oppose to international anti-blasphemy laws and provide international cover for domestic anti-blasphemy laws, which in practice empower ruling majorities against weak minorities and dissenters.' Her brief states Pakistan's penal code includes a section that states that defaming Islam or its practices is deserving of the death penalty, that defiling, damaging or

## SOME STATES HAVE USED SUCH LAWS TO SILENCE DISSIDENT AND RESTRICT CRITICISM

desecrating the Quran will be punished with life imprisonment, and insulting another's religious feelings can be punished with 10 years in prison. A 2006 report from the U.S. State Department on international religious freedom stated that such anti-blasphemy laws "are often used to intimidate religious minorities, threaten opponents, and religious minorities, or to settle personal scores." According to Amnesty International, Waad Muthi, a Christian, was sentenced to death in 2003 for allegedly making derogatory remarks about the Prophet Muhammad. In Egypt, a professor at Cairo University was declared an "apostate" in 1995 for teaching his students to read parts of the Quran metaphorically, and was ordered to divorce his Muslim wife.

The congressional briefing also heard from Zeynep Menek, a Turkish researcher and journalist who recently published a report on apostasy laws in the Middle East, documenting in horrific detail the terrorism, killings, and persecutions not only of Christians and Jews, but of Muslims in some countries who dared question the state-enforced views of Islam. "This has become a tool of oppression for millions of people around the world," Menek said at the briefing. We asked that the majority of violence of anti-blasphemy laws are Muslims.

The campaign is beginning to move storm in some corners of the UN. In March, the UN's special rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Ambedkar Singh, the same one who just has just been awarded to report on the definition of religious—compared the measures to other attempts to oppress individuals who speak against governments. "The special rapporteur is also concerned about the trend of increasing the scope of defamation laws to include the protection of subjective values, such as a sense of national identity, religion, state symbols, institutions or even representative such as the head of state," he

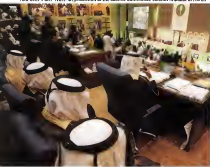
LEVAHT (top) calls the anti-defamation movement "soft jihad." Below (right) he is taken out about remarks on debate

AMRITA, WASHINGTON



wrote in his last editorial report to the Human Rights Council before his term ended August 1. "The special rapporteur reiterates that the provision on protection of reputation has not been designed to protect individuals, not abstract values or institutions."

**YOU CAN'T SAY THAT** Organization of the Islamic Conference's content is to be discussed in March



A broad interpretation of defamation, Ligabo further wrote, "has more often than not been used by governments as a means to silence critics and silence [sic] dissent. Furthermore, as regional human rights courts have already recognized, the right to freedom of expression is applicable not only to comfortable, uncontentious or politically correct opinions, but also to those that offend, shock and disturb." The constant confrontation of ideas, even controversial ones, is a prerequisite to a free-democratic society. "Ligabo added that limits on free speech were put into international agreements in order to prevent war propaganda and incitement of national, racial or religious hatred. They were "not designed to protect belief systems from external or internal criticism."

Yet that is exactly what they are already doing. The campaign against "defamation of religions" can already identify some targets. During a discussion at the UN Human Rights Council in June, two non-governmental organizations were scheduled to give a joint three-minute speech denouncing the widespread violence against women in Muslim countries, including "honour killings" and female genital mutilation. In his planned remarks, the NGO speaker wanted to men-

tion the failure of Islamic religious leaders to directly condemn the practices, and linked Islamic law, called sharia, to the mistreatment of adults and child marriages. He was repeatedly interrupted by Egypt's delegate, who, after reading a copy of the full speech, objected. The delegate said that defamation

which is about the... the guardian of freedom of expression, to set comments or opinions, or subjects that become taboo for discussion," should be a new concept. He also noted that the treatment of homosexuals, who are persecuted in some Islamic countries, is "fundamental" to the debate on sexual discrimination around the world. "It is difficult for me to accept that a council that is the guardian of freedom of expression is the guardian of sexual discrimination," Arbour said. Arbour stepped down from the post in June and was not available to discuss the incident, but spokeswoman said.

Susan James Livingstone, a former U.S. State Department official who specialized in human rights issues and also spoke to the July 18 congressional gathering, said the developments were UN or western. "They are trying to internationalize the concept of blasphemy," said Livingstone at the panel. She contrasted "the concept of equating feelings versus what is actually happening on the ground—murder, imprisonment, abuse." And, she added, "They are using this discourse of 'defamation' to divert our attention. We would bring to a country. Abstractions like states and ideologies and religions are very much more important than individuals. This is a moral failure."

The fact that the resolutions keep passing, and that UN officials now refer to countries' compliance, could help the concept of "defamation of religions" become an international legal norm, and Livingstone, among others, when the International Council of Justice at the Hague decides what rises to the level of an "international customary law," it looks not to unanimity among countries but to "general adherence." "That's why these UN resolutions are so troubling," she said. "They've been passed for 16 years."

The anti-defamation campaign is itself part of a larger agenda to reshape the understanding of human rights being advanced by the Organization of the Islamic Conference, a group of more than 56 states promoting Muslim solidarity and co-operation in economic, social, and political affairs. The organization was founded and is largely funded by Saudi Arabia, a monarchy ruled by strict religious laws, where women, religious minorities and gay people are subject to various forms of discrimination and human rights abuses.

In March, the group held a summit in Dakar, Senegal. Their final communiqué had 55 pages and included a comprehensive strategy on human rights that focused a plan to shield Islamic states from being pressured to change their more contentious practices

throughout the world and human rights laws and organizations. The conference expressed "deep concern over attempts to exploit the issue of human rights to discredit the principles and provisions of Islamic sharia and to interfere in the affairs of Muslim states." It also called for "abstaining from using the

**ERECUTION IN** In June, religious women shot



universality of human rights as a pretext to interfere in the internal affairs of states and undermining their national sovereignty." The mass also called to coordinate and co-operate "in the field of human rights particularly in the relevant international law to face any attempt to use human rights as a means of political pressure on any member state."

They also called for a leading international covenant to protect religious freedom from definition. The organization "urged the need to prevent the abuse of freedom of expression and the press for insulting Islam and other divine religions, calling upon member states to take all appropriate measures to consider all acts, whatever they may be, which defame Islam, as heinous acts that require punishment." The conference also expressed in strong support for an initiative spearheaded by the king of Morocco that calls for developing an international charter that defines "appropriate standards and rules" for exercising the right of freedom of expression and opinion, and "the obligation to respect religious [sic] symbols and sanctuaries as well as spiritual values and beliefs." The conference was working on a revised Islamic human rights charter.

Yet if the goal is to protect Muslims from discrimination or denigration, the legal back-

already exist. The UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights prohibits against religious discrimination. It creates the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. It also protects against advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.

**Female genital mutilation in Egypt, Amal Ligabo**



The U.S. Congress is beginning to pay attention to the issue. In addition to the July 18 briefing organized by the congressional task force on religious freedom, several bills have been introduced to protect the traditional definition of Judaism and to preserve the widespread understanding of free speech. One of the bills would allow American consular use in U.S. courts against foreigners who pursue them in foreign courts for charges that would not constitute defamation under American law. Another bill would forbid U.S. courts from enforcing foreign defamation judgments unless they are consistent with the robust free speech protections in the U.S. constitution. The bills have not been voted on.

Meanwhile, the campaign by the Muslim states presses on. The latest Human Rights Council resolution introduced by Pakistan in March meets with deep concern, among other things, "the increasing trend in recent years of statements attacking religions, Islam and Muslims in journals, in human rights reports." It calls on states to "take steps to prohibit the dissemination" of "false and material" and at any religion or its followers that constitute incitement to hatred and religious hatred, hostility or violence. "It also

states that freedom of expression is subject to limitations, including those necessary for "national security or of public order, or of public health or morals."

France, the Pakistani diplomat, advised journalists to "just avoid hosting religious sentiment" but whose religious sentiment?

**The UN's special rapporteur**



Those who follow traditions of Islam that forbid the depiction of Muhammad, or those who don't? Should only cartoons of the prophet be the basis for legal complaints, or also, for example, the depiction of the Prophet on the franc made in the U.S. Supreme Court, alongside other historical figures? According to the Becker Panel report to the congressional task force, "Under the standards promoted by the 'defamation of religion' resolutions, when a Muslim states his belief that Jesus was a prophet, but not God incarnate, such statements could also be considered 'defamation' against the Christian faith of many believers."

The religious definition laws urged by the resolutions only an subjective emotional reactions and are therefore only to abuse. "We don't want a jurisprudence of hurt feelings," said W. Levent calls the anti-defamation campaign a "selfish jihad" in an attempt to advance Islamic law around the world, not through violence but through Western legal channels. "If an army came to our shores trying to put up legal rights for women and your freedom of speech, we would defend ourselves," Levent told Markers after the briefing. "But when lawyers and lobbyists come, we are confused." ■

## THE INTENT IS TO PUNISH THOSE WHO COMMIT THE 'HEINOUS ACT' OF DEFAMING ISLAM

of sharia "will not happen" Islam, he said, "will not be crucified in this council." According to a detailed report by the Becker panel organization, he asked the president of the council, a Kenyan delegate, to host any debate that excluded data because it would "amount to spreading of hatred against certain members of this council." The Kenyan suspended the session and told the NGOs not to mention sharia, according to Reuters. Egypt, backed by Pakistan and Iran, and that referring to sharia law in the council meant "creating" Islamic states.

Levent Arbour, the former Canadian Supreme Court justice who served as the UN human rights commissioner, accused the countries of "imposing" "boomer" over the council. "It is very concerning in a council

AMAL LIGABO, SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND OPINION, HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, UNITED NATIONS



# JUSTICE, FINALLY

**Will the capture of Karadzic defuse Europe's powder keg?**

BY MISHA GLENNY

I have never met anyone more acutely conscious than Radovan Karadzic. A trained psychiatrist, he always came across as a downish figure who would seek any opportunity to demonstrate his importance to the outside world. His belief that he was poised to engage in ever more frantic attempts to gain attention. Eventually this obsession with how others would regard him led to the commission of mass murder and genocide.

His arrest by Serbian authorities marks a turning point in the history of the Balkans that could well see Europe's powder keg defused once and for all.

Amongst many other curious attributes, Radovan Karadzic was the founder of Bosnia's first Green party in 1989. Convinced that grim politics would be the leading force in post-Communist Yugoslavia, he decided to build his own hard-right. Observing that nobody was inclined to jump on it, he abandoned his commitment to the environment as quickly as he had discovered it.

Like most things, he put this failure down to the rebels of the Sarajevo elite who regarded him as a peasant from dusty Montenegro. Ironically, he reserved the sophistication in

Belgrade with passion. When he moved to the Yugoslav capital in the 1980s to work in one of the country's biggest hospitals, he complained that they too looked down on him as a bumpkin. When he slunk back to Sarajevo with his tail between his legs, he rejoined to his Muslim friends that the Belgians were not interested in his lyrical poetry.

But then along came two characters who were to provide Karadzic with the platform he craved so desperately. The first was a Serb historian, Milorad Milankovic, who enjoyed a huge international reputation for his work on 19th-century Bosnia. Elitistic convinced Karadzic and some other author (Bosnian intellectuals in Sarajevo that the breakup of Yugoslavia provided an equal opportunity to establish a new greater Serbian state).

If it had just been down to Karadzic and his coffee house pals, their new party, the Serbian Democratic Party, would have got nowhere. But then his empty vessel was filled

with a mass cargo sent from Belgrade by the Serbian church, Slobodan Milosevic. Karadzic's attitude changed almost overnight. He started hoarding and trading his opinions, whether Muslim, Croat or Liberal Serb, who refused to share his vision of a Bosnia divided over the middle between Croats and Serbs.

As Bosnia descended into war, Karadzic revelled in the pomp and circumstance that accompanied his self-proclaimed presidency of the Bosnian Serb Republic. As the numbers slaughtered by his forces rose, he never wasted a chance to parade in front of television cameras. He especially enjoyed arriving from his lakeside mansion in Geneva to negotiate with dignitaries like Lord Owen, Cyrus Vance or Richard Holbrooke.

At last, the whole world was watching—the fact that the audience was gripped because they were watching a killer in action seemed to bother Karadzic not one jot. In one interview, he rarely expressed any regret

**BLOODY HISTORY:** A victim of the Bosnian war lies on a hilltop in the Kamenica area

and always gave the impression of being a normal if slightly laid-back politician in normal times.

Now the world watches once again with much greater satisfaction. Karadzic's arrest on a Belgrade bus, announced on Monday, is likely to prove a moment of historical significance. The Serbian president, Boris Yeltsin, has recently sworn in a government that at least shares his commitment to bringing Karadzic and his fellow indicted, Gen. Ratko Mladic, to justice. Nonetheless, one should not underestimate the courage that it took to pick up Karadzic. Serbia recently had to swallow the humiliation of the U.S. and most European Union states recognizing Kosovo. So it's very hard convincing ordinary Serbs that pursuing a pro-European policy is in their best interests.

The arrest will now trigger an avalanche of goodwill in Brussels, where the Council of Ministers was meeting on Monday. Indeed, there is little doubt that the events in Belgrade were carefully aimed to gain maximum positive publicity for the Serbian authorities. This was shared political move. After the Irish No vote to the Lisbon Treaty, Yats' government is aware that enlargement requires spreading the European even infecting some key countries.

That means the new pro-European forces in central and eastern Europe are engaged in a race against time. They are seeking to be named as an official candidate for EU membership by the end of the year, which would place them on a par with their great regional rival, Croatia. The prospect of EU membership for both these countries significantly reduces the pressure of any future destabilization of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It will also help tremendously in the resolution of the still thorny issue of Kosovo and in particular the tension surrounding the divided city of Mitrovica.

Serbia is not yet off the hook. It will have

to intensify its efforts to find Gen. Mladic—Karadzic might be politically responsible for tens of thousands of deaths in Bosnia-Herzegovina but Mladic was the man who rigorously coordinated the bureaucracy. Mladic will be even more vigilant, and persuading his protectors to strengthen the shield they have thrown around him. At the same time, Karadzic's arrest indicates that the security forces who have been instrumental in concealing the two men are shifting. It seems they might no longer be worth the candle.

So now Karadzic can once again enjoy the limelight. This time in the dock at The Hague for the first time since he rose to prominence in 1991, the man's desperate desire for public affirmation will have a positive outcome. Reconciliation in Bosnia itself will receive as

## THE ARREST WILL TRIGGER AN AVALANCHE OF GOODWILL IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



TWO FACES: KARADZIC IN 1998 (LEFT), AND MILORAD MILANKOVIC

important boost. But equally important, Serbia, Bosnia and the entire region can say farewell to two centuries of bloody history and look forward to the prospect of peace and growing prosperity. ■

Belgian expert Michel Glensky is the author of numerous books, among them *The Balkans: Nationalism, War and the Great Powers, 1884-1999* (1998). His latest is *McMafia: A Journey Through the Global Criminal Underworld* (2003), published in Canada by House of Anansi Press.



**TENNESSEE: BOATERS AND BAPTISTS DON'T MIX**

If you're planning on putting your boat in the water in the town of Goddy-Deity, officials would like you to wait until the heatlamps at the feet of the boat slip are over. On July 4, about 40 people gathered on the ramp to be baptized, but because the service went on for two hours a boat was given impatience and launched into their midst. "I think it's real real to do that," reported Goddy-Deity commissioner Gene Shipley.

## Finding Russia's lost treasures

**BY CAMERON AINSWORTH-SINCE** • It's no secret: since the fall of the Soviet Union, Russian authorities have done a rather poor job of protecting some of the country's most prized possessions. Throughout the 1990s, weapons trickled around the world that Russia's nuclear facilities were missing enough material to build a nuclear bomb, while in 2006 the Kremlin had egg on its face when it was discovered that a number of thefts had occurred at the Hermitage gallery in St. Petersburg.

Yet it appears that Moscow's ability to secure and protect its most precious treasures is even more compromised than previously thought.



**THIEVES HIT** the Hermitage gallery and nuclear facilities alike

According to information released to a government audit last week, up to 35,000 artifacts and works of art have disappeared from the country's 1,600 museums. The survey, ordered by former president Vladimir Putin following the Hermitage gallery heist, estimated that several million dollars worth of artifacts are missing. Some of the lost items include pre-revolutionary and Soviet-era medals and clothes along with works of art. The country's interior minister, G. S. S. Rykov, told the Associated Press in an interview that museum staff are using their contacts to send some artifacts without a trace, but that most are simply being lost during transportation.

In an effort to combat the problem, authorities have opened 11 criminal cases for large-scale thefts, which carry a maximum prison sentence of seven years, and more than 100 museum employees have been charged with related infractions. The administration that created the survey is expected to present its findings early next year. Until then, some 400 additional guards will be added, including the State Historical Museum on Moscow's Red Square. ■

## Three wise men to the rescue

**BY PAUL WELLS** • If any further proof were needed that Belgium is a tough country to govern, consider this: out of the country's 10.4 million people, only one has the confidence of King Albert II to be prime minister. And even though Yves Leterme keeps hanging in his resignation, Albert keeps refusing it.

This time, though, the king has at least clipped his reluctant servant's wings. Leterme headed in his resignation for the third time on July 14, unable to meet his own deadline for reconciling Flemish demands for radical constitutional reforms. (The demands of Belgium's Flemish majority for more autonomy have been the cause of Leterme's political life. He doesn't like reports for the French-speaking Walloon minority, last year on the country's national holiday he was unable to sign Belgium's national anthem for a French-language television crew.) After considering options for a few days, Albert named down Leterme's resignation. But he told Leterme to concentrate only on Belgium's economy for awhile, because dealing what has become an unending constitutional crisis, nobody's been doing that.

The crisis will have new owners. Albert appointed "three wise men" to report back to him within two weeks. All come from the country's constitution: two are francophones, one from the tiny German-speaking minority, and one Walloon is to look for guarantees that no one will be allowed to force their own measures as they would move on to mass difficult matters without worrying that Dutch-speaking, prosperous Flemish would either roll right over them or abandon them. The last option has become a looming danger. Where only a tiny fringe in Flanders has long-standing separatist convictions, the current impasse has given it a lot of company. Polls suggest nearly half of the Flemish population now supports breaking Belgium up into two or more sovereign countries. ■



**BELOUIN'S PM** wants to quit, but the king has a better idea

## The EU's most corrupt new member

**BY PATRICIA TREBLE** • Critics of the European Union's massive expansion, worried that the community's selection criteria had become too lax, have nagged our Bulgaria, which joined last year without the usual EU



**BOMB BLASTS** are common in Bulgaria, where the mob rules

standards before its government, judiciary and economy last week, those concerns were validated when a shocking detail report on Bulgaria's mismanagement of billions of dollars of EU aid meant for desperately needed infrastructure funding was leaked. Sofia was urged to "cleanse its administration and ensure that the generous support it receives from the EU actually reaches its citizens and is not siphoned off by corrupt officials, operating together with organized crime." The EU is also alarmed over 950 mafia killings, since the Communists lost power, without a single conviction.

Bulgaria didn't just talk tough. It froze around \$1.6 billion in aid. And two Bulgarian agencies are likely to lose control of nearly \$1 billion in subsidies because of financial mismanagement. The problems are colossal. In February the head of the road infrastructure project resigned after allegedly giving \$180 million in contracts to his brother. As a result, the EU could withhold at least \$11 billion in aid expected to flow into Bulgaria over the next five years. And Bulgaria will likely be blocked from joining the prospective euro and the euro-currency zone.

The news gave even worse for the EU's poor nation, ranked last No. 64 on Transparency International's corruption index. Another leaked report, by the EU Anti-Fraud Office, described a "criminal network" of more than 50 Bulgarian and foreign firms, with six senior politicians, that could be siphoning funds from EU aid. In response, Deputy Prime Minister Neelima Plachkova asked the anti-fraud unit to send more officers to Sofia. The government also hired two FBI trainers. ■



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BIG WHITTLE (above) says hiding cigarettes helps keep them out of children's hands

# BUTTS ON THE LINE

**Cigarette companies and corner stores find creative ways to help each other survive**

**BY KATE LINDAL** • It's just about every convenience store, the pushy salesman—ships, ready hands, copies of the *National Enquirer*—that put pride of place, right up by the cashier's counter. But these days, the cigarettes are missing. So-called "powerwalls," the tobacco displays that were once front and center, are now located in almost every grocery store and territory, hidden from view with black flags, exploded doors or even shower curtains.

Governments have been restricting point-of-sale cigarette advertising to the point that, today, almost all of it is illegal. Yet in its reports to Health Canada, the tobacco industry totals up the "amount paid to retailers to display product upright," and that number has gone up, growing by nearly 50 per cent from 2001 to 2007. What could companies be paying for?

All sorts of things, it turns out. The tobacco industry and convenience store operators

are mutually successful when it comes to finding ways to market their products. Store owners receive money from tobacco companies for everything from sharing information on consumer purchases to stocking certain cigarette brands on prime shelf space, even when it's behind those black barriers. Industry insiders now refer to tobacco as operating in a "dark market" due to the tight restrictions on traditional advertising. Inevitably, the convenience store has an increasingly important role to play.

In some provinces, tobacco display bans are relatively new. Alberta's came into effect on July 1, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia introduced similar laws earlier this year. With New Brunswick and the Yukon Territory planning to introduce bans in 2009, Newfoundland and Labrador will soon be the only Canadian jurisdiction where cigarette ads are still visible at point of sale.

Prior to the display laws, manufacturers paid retailers a handsome fee to ensure their brands got a prime spot on the back wall. The various bans will mean "millions lost to small business," says David Bayes, president of the Canadian Convenience Stores Association. He predicts 10 per cent of con-

venience stores will go under within three years just because of the bans.

And yet, according to those numbers provided to Health Canada, even in provinces where display bans have been in place for a while, tobacco companies' payments to retailers have gone up. Statistics Canada's banned cigarette displays. In 2003, that year, tobacco manufacturers paid \$29.176 to the province's retailers. By 2007, payments had grown to \$1.85 million. The increase in Manitoba—where powerwalls were banned in 2004—is even more dramatic, jumping from \$2.2 million that year to \$4.9 million in 2007. Last year, across the country, tobacco companies paid out \$308 million to retailers—an average of about \$1,500 for each of Canada's 20,000 convenience stores.

A 2007 Supreme Court of Canada decision gave the tobacco industry what it perceived as a green light to advertise in limited ways. Prior tobacco ad bans in publications with an 85 per cent adult readership, for example, yet many publishers still decline to take the ads (including Rogers Publishing, publisher of the *Maclean's*), and the companies themselves stay away from traditional advertising. Bayes, Benson & Hedges Inc., Canada's only

publicly traded tobacco company, currently has no point-of-sale ads, says vice-president of corporate affairs Ron Fink. Because this option is allowed as such ads are so restricted, "the risk of being wrong are just too high," he says, adding that some provisions of the federal Tobacco Act include a proven solution: "You don't have an incentive to a public company that's supposed to go to prison on some point," he says. When it comes to making the brands stand out, then, cigarette manufacturers "have a few options, and lots of money," says Richard Poller, professor emeritus at the University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business. "They see the retail industry as not just part of the total mix, but the most important part."

For convenience stores—where cigarette sales make up as much as 71 per cent of sales—tobacco is equally important. The two industries' close ties are demonstrated by the fact that, prior to becoming president of the Canadian Convenience Stores Association, Dave Bayes was employed by tobacco company RJR-Macdonald Inc. (acquired by Japan Tobacco in 1999, now known as JTI Macdonald Corp.). "Nobody better be teaching people how to handle those products than me," he says.

Retailers have gone from being simple counter clerks to an essential part of the tobacco industry's marketing strategy, experts say. "The retailer is no longer a convenience

store, but usually sells the product behind the counter," said Miranda, Imperial Tobacco Canada's vice-president of marketing, in a 2006 survey in the July-August 2006 edition of *Convenience Central*. "He's someone who can provide information."

Reached at the Beaver Creek Centre store in Winnipeg, owner Bob Whittle agrees. "We're able to keep cigarettes out of the hands of children," he says. It hasn't hurt his business either. "Our company in particular does pay me to have a certain amount of space on the shelf," he says. "That reasoning is that, if you should open the doors to fill it, some body in the store will see the brand." It wasn't a bit silly to him, he admits. "There's not a lot of logic in it."

Imperial Tobacco pays retailers a fee to put a program that ensures its products are on the shelf and in stock, according to manager of corporate communications Cath-

erine Doyle.

Meanwhile, another shopkeeper (who asked to remain anonymous) says a company installed his tobacco storage unit in accordance with the ban as an exchange for a designated spot. "There's an agreement between us and them, that if they want to be on [a certain] shelf, they'll do this and that for us," the shopkeeper says. While RJR has not paid for any display shelves ever here, Doyle says Imperial provided some retailers with flags to cover their product. (Imperial Tobacco drew fire last spring after offering a resident a program that would second parties by ad space on their flags. The government was abruptly cancelled around the same time it went public, although Doyle says the timing was coincidental.)

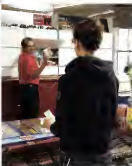
Tom Coates is the owner of Coates' Convenience Centre in Carleton Place, Ont. Coates says an important part of business, he says, "is to keep your regular customers coming in every day." Like most stores, Coates goes visited by tobacco company representatives fairly often; they'll check stock and exchange any old packs for new ones.

"They like to know what's going on, and what are the trends," Coates says. While he isn't being paid for shelf space, he says a tobacco company has offered to pay him to take a survey of what customers are buying. "They said, 'Do you need a little extra money?'" he says. "I said, 'Sure!'"

Financial incentives are also available. According to Convenience Central, RJR's Fink last fall installed a recent inside show. "You can expect our company to not be paying for retail display space. But we're making trade spending off the table, not at all. In fact, we will agree that trade spending pays for performance kinds of programs." When questioned about these programs, Fink told *Maclean's* "I'm not an objective with a cross, and should that move meet the objective, they're compensated with a payment." Imperial Tobacco also offers what Doyle calls a "pay-per-unit" payment to retailers, as part of a larger program. The federal Tobacco Act doesn't regulate most industry promotional practices.

But given that retailers are not to be unfairly lured to their chosen brand, why bother spending money on these programs, critics ask? "We're not in a position to be objective with a cross, and should that move meet the objective, they're compensated with a payment." Imperial Tobacco also offers what Doyle calls a "pay-per-unit" payment to retailers, as part of a larger program. The federal Tobacco Act doesn't regulate most industry promotional practices.

## AT LEAST ONE TOBACCO COMPANY PAYS FOR PRIME SHELF SPACE, EVEN THOUGH IT'S BEHIND A BARRIER



vine Doyle. Nonetheless, Benson & Hedges Inc. (or RJR) is no longer compensating retailers for any display space, Fink says. (JTI Macdonald, meanwhile, has "a number of different programs in place" that vary depending on the retailer, notes André Bonnet, vice-president of corporate affairs and communications for the American retailer, but he declined to comment on the content of these programs, calling them "non-commercially

ing to heavily on marketing? Well, in the era of high taxes, more smokers are simply looking for the cheapest pack. And that's when a store clerk can be extremely important. "Typically the only moment you'll go near is around the checker brands," says Chris Wilson, general manager of the Ottawa-based chain Quikie Convenience Stores. "That may move customers from brand to brand."

"It's almost like a sacrament," Coughlin says. "For in the person that recommends what's on the menu."

Perhaps unsurprisingly, tobacco companies are trying to ensure clerks understand their products—Dorland's annual *Top 100* list has been sending out more product catalogs and flyers to retailers since the list came into force. At Li's Billboards Store in Weymouth, Sask., owner Jeff Richards leaves supplier information in the staff room and "encourage[s] employees to read it," Richards believes tobacco companies are putting more money into trade magazines, many of which are available to more consumers for free and come packed with tobacco ads.

Health advocates find the shopkeeper's expanded role troubling. Indeed, many are concerned that tobacco companies might start paying clerks to push their brands, in this way "getting around traditional restrictions on tobacco advertisement by simply passing on verbal messages of which there's no record," says Michael Perley, director of the Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco. According to lawyer Bob Cunningham, senior policy analyst for the Canadian Cancer Society, this would be illegal under the federal Tobacco Act. (JD MacDonell, RBC and Imperial Tobacco's ad exec directly paying clerks to verbally promote their brands.)

But even if tobacco companies aren't paying for it, it's happening anyway, mainly because there are no regulations on display. "The Quebec chain isn't receiving a lot of notices about particular products, Wilson says, "but maybe I should be asking them to compensate us for it, because it's happening now regardless."

In the face of declining smoking rates, convenience stores are quickly diversifying into other lines of business—such as fast food. But for the time being, the tobacco and convenience store industries still need each other. As the sales grow and more retailers, cigarette companies will seek out new ways to distribute their always have. "We don't see this as a sunset industry, we see this as an industry in transition," Imperial Tobacco's Mitrakis is quoted as saying in *Convenience Channel*. "Probably in 10 years we're not going to be the tobacco industry as we see it today, but we will be here." ■

# GOSSIP SELLS THE GOODS

Celebrities and the paparazzi are now in the business plan

BY ANNE KINGTON • Before last Wednesday, few people had heard of publicity.com, a website selling gossip baby gear. By week's end, the site had gone from two million hits and had received orders from as far away as Dubai. Credit a tiny item in Keith's Mailer, a gossip columnist for the *New York Daily News*, that reported Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie had, on weeks earlier, ordered two of its US\$100 merchandise items for their then-sabotage news. What made the story buzzworthy was the race one of the models had been ordered for "Rox Loeve," not "Knox Loeve," as their latest hit boy named, suggesting a last-minute change of mind.

The source of this breaking news? That would be Andy Behrman, publicity.com's president, who learned gossip baby gear was writing for *New York magazine*. "It's critical for a company like this to have celebrity associations," he says. "I know who gives a lot of about a plan my baby read. But, all of a sudden, if the talk of a second Jolie-Pitt is peering on this \$200 merchandise set, that's a \$10,000 worth that we'll use as fly-by-night."

Behrman comes to the job having disrupted the tabloid industry by selling Peter Dinkov, the celebrity gossip-fueled Los Angeles purveyor of baby paraphernalia recently hyped in *People's* gossip coverage of Jennifer Lopez's Versace-style romance. In two weeks have become go-to destinations for parents seeking "baby bump" and the celebrities trying for their attention. "When Tim Spelling goes into Peter Dinkov, she knows there will be 30 photographs there because I'm going to add," he says. Even negative publicity has burned the store's celebrity and in May, Tim Goss and Kate Holmes threat the company name had been with a lawsuit-and-division line that had been begun information had been leaked that they had dropped



ANITON captures "celebrity" paparazzi's sights at the Cannes film festival behind the end of the

between US\$150,000 and US\$400,000, as Peter Dinkov the two years ago that daughter had been born, in an "off the record" quote to *Life* of Jolie magazine. "The purpose of obtaining [the store's] image and obtaining a commercial advantage," Behrman says the number was an estimate of what they'd speak in total, not only at the store.

Such is the power of strategically placed celebrity gossip, next to which product placement in movies seems downright quaint. Today's storefront may think that's catching up on the latest chapters in the Kate Holmes-Lance Armstrong romance as the pair are photographed playing tennis. But the fact they're outfitted in gear from Nike, a company Armstrong represents, suggests another agenda may be at work, one in which the gossip consumer is in fact the one being converted. Paparazzi and celebrities recently work together, says Maria Lavezzola, a Los Angeles, who blog *PerezHilton.com* has made him a boss for celebrity. It's not uncommon for paparazzi to pay a celebrity for exclusive shots, he says. "They all work differently. Some will go cash upfront—\$10,000, \$15,000. Or they'll get a cut of the

profits." Such placement is a lot, he says, not just Lindsay Lohan was paid to carry a Lohan replacement. "We were and I had were photographed on week looking up some Nintendo games," he says, referring to the mesh gossip about an of The Hills "It's like a free ad."

Joanne Puleo, the former editor of *Star* who has just turned *Rebel* Puleo Media, notes the current scandal involving Madonna's alleged affair with New York Yankees Alex Rodriguez as a classic example of gossip being misused into marketing. Her sources tell her the two have known each other for decades. Yet Madonna's scandalous affair—appearing in Rodriguez's box at the last Senators—can be reported that sales for her upcoming world tour and latest CD were flagging. Puleo notes, "She's very sophisticated and aware of how publicity plays into celebrity. She has used her connections throughout her career to boost her profile." Madonna is involved by gossip press, says Puleo. Being named an alleged home wrecker able to have a messy divorce while still associated with her past, star-career pros, a mixed move for the 40-year-old, she says.

"There are no coincidences in Hollywood," says Elaine Lai, the Vancouver-based blogger behind *Lanternpost.com*, the popular site that avidly chronicles the photo ops and secret trips that occur just before a tour or movie release. "I think certain celebrities and publicists are so savvy to the fact that they can no longer control the message and use it to their advantage," says Lai, who's currently trying to track down what Naomi Watts, who recently appeared in a Donald Trump-sponsored event, is basking for an apartment in one of his buildings. "She's not like Nicole Kidman, she's not a fence house, so I'm thinking, what's going on here? And out of context that's a person in New York. Even if people can't get the house that they want. So I'm like what can Donald Trump offer? Real estate."

Journalist Antonia is a masterful player of the game, says Lai, referring to news of her relationship with singer John Mayer breaking up a month before his North American tour. "I do think it's a real thing," she says of the relationship. "But it doesn't mean people don't exploit what's true to further their careers." Antonia is also known to exploit "celebrity" gossip as a money maker. Last year, the British model Paul Sculzar was photographed leaving her house carrying a bottle of Smart Water, the brand she endorses.

Quantifying the value of gossip in marketing is a difficult task, but it's increasingly being done. In 2006, *Forbes* Inc. the Toronto news who operates *Kotex*, the Los Angeles



NO COINCIDENCES: Angelina Jolie, Channing Tatum, and Kate Winslet appear in *Wade*



store, followed by celebrities like the Hilary Swank, took a stab at it during a legal skirmish with *Us Weekly*, noting after the magazine's gradual that *Kotex* was "a \$1 billion business." *Kotex* opened the store in 2006 as a sort of Robertson Roadshow. Frequently asked out by paparazzi covering the nearby celebrity hotspot. The by *Us Weekly* traditional advertising, they forged a symbiotic relationship with photographers and publicists who displayed the *Kotex* name and products prominently. Katie Berry was captured by paparazzi leaving the store in 2003 just after her Oscar was with an estimated "11" handbag, which became a million-dollar sale, says Ross. Nicole Kidman held her back singing party there. Matthew McConaughey's girlfriend was leaving her new jewelry here that same month.

The formal has generated Ross a US\$15 million-a-year business, a place on the Los Angeles Times' "100 most powerful" in Southern California for controlling the "celebrity fashion machine," and he's turned the store into a tourist destination. In a legal action that exposed the legal gray area underlying the machine, Ross sued a *Us Weekly* editor for not paying the bill for a private party held at the store. He claimed he had been guaranteed a two-page spread that didn't



materialize. He also alleged the magazine had suppressed the *Kotex* logo in credits, captions or photographs, a claim that cost him an estimated US\$10,000 a week in lost publicity. AJP has perched over, says Ross. Indeed, in January of this year, *Us Weekly* featured photographs of pop singer Britney Spears during her highly publicized breakdown during a 4.2 m shopping spree at the store, which opened shortly for her.

The Canadian outlet *Rosie* has also long parlayed celebrity associations with both athletes and performers. When Wayne Gretzky in *Wendy* and Justin Timberlake recently, Paris Hilton was photographed in a *Rosie* "Stop Global Warming" leather



# Naked shorts: not as fun as they sound



STEVE MAJORS

Last week, in the midst of another massive sell-off by the U.S. stockholders and spreading fear about the health of the U.S. financial system, the Securities and Exchange Commission put its foot down. The market again issued an "emergency order" designed to clamp down on the bad guys peddling from the anxiety swirling around volatility mortgage lenders.

The SEC order explicitly banned an obscure form of trading, known as "naked short selling," against the nation's futures financial institutions. So-called naked shorts are thought to be used by nefarious speculators trying to grab vulnerable companies into the dust, and the SEC is determined to stop them.

But one point was tellingly omitted from the SEC's stern notice: naked short selling of this kind is already illegal, and has been for years. In effect, this was like the police issuing a statement that until further notice, all cars must stop at stop signs. Why would the SEC do this? Well, the answer to that lies in the way we add regard the business of selling stocks and, more importantly, the way we approach fear in the financial markets.

Here's a little background: Selling stocks short means betting that a certain stock will fall. Normally, when you buy a stock, you plan to hold on to it for awhile in the expectation it will rise. Short sellers turn that intention on its head: the trader borrows a stock at a given price, and then immediately sells it at the hope it will fall and he can buy it later at a lower price, profiting on the difference. So, a short seller borrows a stock trading for \$10, then sells it. If it falls to \$40, he buys the stock, returns it to the original owner and pockets the \$6 difference. Of course, if the stock rises, the short seller takes a loss.

There is all perfectly legal. In fact, just about every reputable academic and analyst will tell you this short sellers are an important player in the market. After all, there, stock prices would only rise on the basis of if it were most sophisticated investors. Short selling is a way to price healthy skepticism into the market.

There are some, however, who consider that naked short selling is the devil of the earth. They think it is a surefire recipe for people to bet on a company's decline and to profit on the misfortune of stockholders. Some even say that all short selling is a form of manipulation, based on rumors and lies, aimed at driving down stocks. It never occurs to those people that, by the same logic, buying stocks is a form of manipulation aimed at driving stocks higher.

But the most kind of short seller, the kind that everybody hates the most, is the so-called naked short seller. Naked shorts work exactly the same way, except the trader sells a stock that they haven't even borrowed. They take advantage of the fact that it can take up to



The SEC would have you believe short sellers are to blame for this mess

three days to actually settle a trade and to deliver a stock that is bought or sold. So, if you're a hedge manager and you're willing to play games with your brokerages, you can sell a stock that you don't actually hold and nobody'll know for at least three days—giving you plenty of time to profit from its decline. Conventional wisdom holds that naked shorts are pure evil—like Lex Luthor.

In January 2005, the SEC passed Regulation SHO, which made virtually all naked short sales illegal. Some naked shorts still happen, but some people will go through with it, but it's been clear for awhile that selling stock you don't hold is verboten at U.S. markets. All the SEC did last week is publicly reaffirm it.

Which is all well and good, but it's worth for show than anything. Recent studies by

both the SEC and Canadian regulators have shown that naked short selling is so rare it has virtually no effect on stock prices. In Canada, for example, Market Regulation Services found that only 0.27 per cent of all trades in Canada failed to settle on time, and of those, less than 10 per cent were the result of naked short selling. Only 0.07 per cent of all short sales were naked, according to NMR.

Why is it so rare? In part because it is probably the single nastiest form of stock trading known to man. When you buy a stock for \$10, you have \$50 at risk. When you short a stock at \$10, your risk is infinity minus \$10. When you take out a naked short position, your risk is truly infinite—if the stock rises, you lose the entire value of the stock.

Nevertheless, short sellers make a consistent target because they are a new breed, they tend to be accurate, they bet against the pack and they throw around large amounts of money. It's no coincidence that Congress held hearings into the activities of short sellers after the 1929 stock market crash, after the 1987 crash and following the 9/11 sell-off. And now, with major financial institutions in peril, Congress and the SEC have set their sights on a familiar whipping boy.

These rumors can lead to the loss of confidence in our markets. Speculation of conditions can lead to panic selling, which may be further exacerbated by "naked short selling," the SEC said in its emergency release last week. And yes, the rumors can also lead to panic selling, especially when the undesirable truth of the banking system right now is downright ugly.

The SEC and Congress have remained so familiar these days that they have to fear for their own skin. And if you're some nasty or furious trader getting rich off these fears, we're coming to get you.

That is an immensely comforting message for millions of ordinary investors, terrified at the state of the economy. And it is totally appropriate for the SEC to do anything it can to reassure these investors, even if it means resorting to a little misguiding misrepresentation and creepy alarm-baiting. But the truth of the matter is more complicated and unsettling than the SEC suggests.

In reality, the thing you have to fear is that your lenders will default, and that the short will ensue, and things really are going to fall in a heartbeat into hellfire. If so, naked shorts are the least of our problems. ■

steve.majors@macleanmagazine.com

THE RUSH FOR GOLD IS ON. DON'T MISS A MOMENT OF IT.



## BEIJING THE OLYMPIC GAMES 2008

Swimming in Beijing: Michael Phelps and David Davies of Great Britain swim in the 100m freestyle final.



OLYMPIC GAMES VIEWERS' GUIDE

# BEIJING

## THE OLYMPIC GAMES 2008

### BROADCAST SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS



#### OPENING CEREMONY - Friday, August 8, 7:30 am ET (ET)

#### CLOSING CEREMONY - Sunday, August 24, 7:30 am ET (ET)

	Wed Aug 6	Thu Aug 7	Fri Aug 8	Sat Aug 9	Sun Aug 10	Mon Aug 11	Tue Aug 12	Wed Aug 13	Thu Aug 14	Fri Aug 15	Sat Aug 16	Sun Aug 17	Mon Aug 18	Tue Aug 19	Wed Aug 20	Thu Aug 21	Fri Aug 22	Sat Aug 23	Sun Aug 24
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For full broadcast schedule visit [chcsports.ca/olympics](http://chcsports.ca/olympics)

Olympic Games coverage also available on CBC Television, **bolt**, CBCSports.ca, CBC NewsWorld, CBC Radio and TSN

All times Eastern Standard Time. Schedule subject to change.





**ADAM VAN KOEVERDEN**  
Coeur Kajak (K1 500 m and K1 1000 m)

Athens Olympics gold medalist (K1 500m) and current world champion was dominant throughout the 2007 season, including breaking the world record - long thought unbreakable - in the K1 500 metres. He has an excellent shot at defending his Olympic title, plus making another



**ALEXANDRE DESPATIE**  
Diving (3 m and 5 m synchronized)

Despite is the first world champion in all three categories (1 and 3 m springboard, 10 m platform) and was a silver medalist at Athens. Earlier this year he broke his foot, but is still ready to go for #1 in Beijing. Will Olympic gold finally be his in 2008?



**KYLE SHEWFELT**  
Judo (Super heavyweight)

How do you break both legs 10 months before the Olympics and still be ready to compete? Canada's first gold medalist at the 2004 Olympic Games has vowed to do just that and his arrival in Beijing will be a victory in itself.



**CANADA'S MEN'S 8 ROWING TEAM**

Favourites going into the Athens Olympics, Canada's Men's 8 boat finished in a disappointing 7th place. They bounced back, became 2007 World Champions, and won several World Cup races this past season. They'll be rowing for redemption in Beijing.



**MICHAEL PHELPS**  
Swimming (Marathon)

Phelps won two golds and two bronzes in Athens and is once again chasing Mark Spitz's record of seven golds set at the 1972 Munich Olympics. Will he win 8 golds in Beijing and become one of the greatest Olympians ever?

## Sometimes Wal-Mart is the victim



**WHY DOES Wal-Mart need solar panels when other stores don't?**

**BY PETER SHAW TAYLOR** - Everyone knows Wal-Mart as the schoolyard bully of retailing. When it shows up, other stores cover in terror. But what happens when the tables are turned? Guelph, Ont., provides a fascinating study of Wal-Mart as victim.

For awhile, the local group Residents for Sustainable Development tried to derail a planned Wal-Mart in Guelph's north end, even though the site is at the junction of two highways in a commercial area. They argued the store was too big, traffic would get worse and downtown merchants would be hurt.

When those arguments didn't work, they tried religious beliefs as a nearby synagogue encouraged it. When that Wal-Mart's "big box" reputation would damage its drive-thru religious services, an appeal was granted, but ultimately failed. Guelph's first Wal-Mart finally opened in 2006.

New store's popularity translated to plans for expansion, and as time went on, its early July, city council voted twice to four against approving the expansion due to lack of compensation to energy efficiency. One councillor voted the vote down because there were no solar panels on Wal-Mart's roof.

"The necessity for solar panels" came out of thin air, says Prabhu Devd, representative of 6 & 7 Developments, which owns the land. He was never asked to include solar panels and the city doesn't have the legal right to demand them. In fact, Wal-Mart plans increased building code energy efficiency requirements by 25 per cent.

"It's hard not to think city council is treating Wal-Mart differently," says Devd. "We seem to be held to standards that don't apply to anyone else." The council is not over the top, however. The mayor of Guelph, who supports the store, plans to bring the matter back for a vote in September. ■

## House prices start to fall: what's next?



**BY JONAS KERRY** - With housing markets around the world plummeting, many Canadians have been wondering: could it happen here? The first hint of an answer arrived last week with a report showing that house prices in Canada fell in June for the first time in nearly a decade. Now the question has become: is this the beginning of the fall?

According to the Canadian Real Estate Association, the average house price in major Canadian cities dropped \$341,096, down 0.4 per cent from the year before, led by declines in Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. These numbers surprised economists, who were predicting slower growth, but not an outright decline. "We've seen some real run-ups in prices and all good things must come to an end," says Peter Hall, an economist with Export Development Canada. "But this was a surprise. We would not have called for a pronounced price contraction."

Certainly, the dip is nothing compared to the carnage elsewhere. In April, house prices in 30 major U.S. cities fell 15.1 per cent from the year before. Home prices are also slipping in France, the U.K. and Spain.

Still, after a decade of ballooning prices in Canada, even a small decline will have an impact. "It's all about psychology," says James Wong, a real estate agent in Richmond, B.C. "Homebuyers are market cool. They start to worry that they're buying at the peak of the market."

They may decide to wait and see if prices will go down further, which slows the pace of purchasing and of home real estate listings to new buildings.

Meanwhile, sellers tend to hold out for a while because they're used to a rising market. Eventually, though, they lower their prices, rather than risk a further drop. "We're seeing signs of that already, and it's the official announcement that's behind what's really happening," says Wong. From his vantage point on the front lines, Wong predicts Canada will continue to see a slight decline in prices over the next few months. Given how bad things have gotten in the rest of the world, many will be hoping that's as bad as it gets. ■

## Your wildest fantasy, for sale online



**BY JONAS KERRY** - Would driving a Ferrari F430 Spider with a model in the front seat make your life complete? How about appearing in a magazine as an emerging dinner party host for a celebrity chef? Whatever your ultimate wish, a new site called Swerve (short for sweet dreams) can make it a reality.

Launched by 31-year-old British entrepreneur Jay Nguyen last month, the site is much like eBay, except it allows people to bid on experiences rather than things. It's the place to go for such indulgences as a morning with a star (a live concert), a shopping trip to Milan or a week at an exclusive ski resort in Fiji. Users can also view experiences or post suggestions for moments they'd like the chance to buy.

Nguyen, a former oil and gas engineer, launched the site with \$800,000 in venture

**DO YOU dream of driving a Ferrari with a model? Swerve has it.**

capital funding. "So far the focus has been on getting businesses excited about the concept and marketing about products they can put on for Swerve users," he says.

His next step is to build traffic to the launch of a few weeks ago, where they have 8,000 hits on Swerve, but Nguyen has set himself a target of 500,000 visits a month within the year. To reach that goal, he plans to use blogs and social networking sites to spread the word, and maximize his visibility as search engine sites (he's already in talks with Lycos, he says). When his site is fully up and running, it will earn revenue from two sources: a commission of 5 to 10 per cent on every successful bid, plus paid advertising.

Will Swerve succeed? Tim Richardson, an e-commerce professor at the University of Toronto and Seneca College, says the prospective market is small. Still, the site might work if it consistently offers experiences no one else can. Nguyen could also come out on top by convincing corporations to use his site for their promotions and incentives programs for high-value clients. "But he's going to see specific results early on," Richardson says. "Investors want money back quickly, usually in months rather than years." ■



CONRAD BLACK heads to prison, March, 2008 (left), Annel and Black in Chicago

the mercenaries and unions of corporate governance had their own agenda. Propelled by the force of the scepter, they didn't need to find anything. Once he was accused, evidence against my husband was no longer required. After a five-month investigation, the special committee reported—wrongly, as we now know—that payments of US\$12.15 million arising out of the sale of some newspaper assets and made to my husband and others were authorized by Hollinger International's board of directors.

Now, it's 2009. *Canoe* magazine that day, every detail, including the address of my husband's every TV channel had federal spies about us fishing across the bottom of the ocean. By then we knew the nets had left the ship, along with them the last strands of their integrity. *Canoe* hit like

**IN THE BAG WAS HIS HALF-USED TUBE OF LIP SALVE AND THE TABLETS HE USED FOR SLEEP AT NIGHT. 'CAN'T HAVE THAT,' SAID THE OFFICER.**

Henry Kissinger who had used *Canoe* until only weeks earlier, Marc Jost's *Kurva*, Rich and East, former governor James Thompson of Illinois, all of them ready to sing my song to save themselves the inconvenience of finding us to the threats of regulation and prosecution, choosing those lawyers and newly appointed doctors, doing so very well off what was then the fleshy corpse of the common Corelcomcast. Reading the *Wall* interviews with each senator people is to read a sad and bad reveal. Was began the drawing of Hollinger International and its parent company Hollinger Inc. all billions, and my husband of his lifetime of work and caring.

Conrad fought with one hand but lost his back. He could get neither information or access to the special committee's findings. It had promised no evidence for us in exchange but he felt duty bound to resign in CEO and pay back money they questioned. (He's owed more of this money now he the company hasn't paid it.) I doubt that Conrad arranged to privatize Hollinger Inc. and sell Hollinger International to give the shareholders a decent profit was blocked with the help of the Chancery Court in Delaware and the Ontario Securities Commission in Toronto (whose duty it is to protect shareholders but whose supervising panel stood against the recommendations of their own staff as well as 87 per cent of Hollinger's public shareholders).

# THIS IS HUMILIATING

**Having to defend yourself or your husband is unpleasant, but what's at stake is too important to be left unsaid**



BARBARA ANIEL

My life was seiped out in Chicago—at least all that mattered in it. No big deal for a city that has wiped out many lives, I suppose, but my demise didn't come at the hand of some mob-ruled mobster. Mine was judicial murder in the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. The latest sentencing ruling was down on June 25 was in fact devoted at my husband—I was only collateral damage.

During the past few years, newspaper and television producers by the traditional have asked me to write about "me" or "it" for them, being the delicious story of the man and his fall of a big wheel in society and how it rose. "It" for me means the brutal discussion of my husband's accomplishments, reputation and freedom, as well as our life

together, his company and with it virtually all shareholders' equity by a combination of press and judiciary merely dancing together to the music of the times.

So what you ask. What does it matter if one well-off elderly white woman with too many pairs of expensive shoes now finds her social life largely limited to visiting her dearly missed husband in a U.S. federal correctional institution. Should be interesting material for her as a writer. But I'd touched the real issue in my writing when considering on changing *Barbara* to crime and criminal law long before I married Conrad. If the rich and well-connected cannot get justice, what chance for anyone else? What chance for the average person, criminalized young men now shuffling in front of the judge in Chicago, street while their court appointed attorneys negotiated their freedom away in that right

legal world where a client's fate never disturbs the handsome business lawyers. If ostentatiously privileged defend with life as can be basically unsecured, needfully dependent, likely wounded, shamelessly persecuted, innocently convicted and prospectively punished, it doesn't take much to figure out what happens to the vulnerable, the powerless, the working class people whose savings have been eaten up trying to defend themselves. They had, finally, in the 9-11 a m. courtroom people this takes place all over "America the Free," the country that "wins" 90 per cent of cases and imprisons more people than any other in the world.

Every well-known husband is innocent. Every convicted man has a tale of how the system rigged. There drops suspected some tales were true. Now I know. Let me tell you a little about life in the last lane down.

My husband, Conrad Black, took 50 years to build his company into the third largest newspaper company in the Western world. He did it his way—and his way was a good way to run a railroad. As the 18th century

draw to a close, my husband's strategy in a rapidly changing market was resulting in profitable investments in Canada as well as in the United States, running shareholders nearly US\$1 billion in capital gains. Then, a large New York international investor saw even more profit in blocking the gray train. Along with a few smaller investors, the dividend began a campaign to wrest control of the company from Conrad, break it up, and sell parts of it for a quick profit.

The corporate rebellion planning was in cooperation with newspaper while action

of management made use of the Hollinger group, using long simple greed to filleting extravagance to outright corruption and thievery. One newspaper competitor tipped my husband the details of my husband's financial situation. We were, it seems, a delicious target. After months of daily food from newspapers around the world, I stopped reading about my own life, real or imagined, my consciousness in dream, true or false, and my plastic status, revealed by me or made up by reporters. I had to track what relevance such info held to or with the accusations against my husband or why it interested normally serious media commentators, but that was the process of denunciation.

In my years, were the clothes crazy, and my producer so skilled by the *Globe's* Margaret Winer and Madison's Peter C. Newman, and went my husband the arrogant and pos-

ing pose of the books and film depicting him, what then? Would this justify the making of due process by the legal system? Would it make unnecessary the proper service by the press of public facts and things? Is there a sufficient reason for defense even now when the essential emptiness of this brand heart has been established in a court of law? If *Barbara* had been a loud and vulgar Jew instead of an officer and a gentleman Jew, would this case have been any the less important or his presentation less intense?

In his innocence, my husband believed that evidence was enough. On May 22, 2001, in response to an activist investor, he created a special committee to investigate allegations of excessive or unjustified payments to him and his management team, confident this special committee—which hired former SEC head Clifford Chance to investigate—would find any simple reason it was not based on justice for the simple reason that there was none.

At the complement, Conrad controlled there were not only no corporate criminals but no corporate crimes no accounting scandals, no job or pension losses, no bankruptcies, no stock value collapse. Even in the difficult economic times of the early 2000s, the Hollinger group kept its corporate head above water. None of this matters? What my husband did not understand was that

ANIEL IN CHICAGO

THE HOLLINGER GROUP

**PEACOCK DIRECTORS:** (Clockwise from top left) Patrick Rader, Maria-Joelle Rivest, Alan Goffin, Henry Kissinger

Now, shareholders would sit helplessly for the next four years and watch the value of their shares evaporate to nil or near nil.

Lawson for debtors was followed swiftly from both sides. Conrad had no idea, and we could not convince him, that he was in Salem, in the middle of an American witch hunt, intensified by howling Canadian acolytes. There is no desire against false accusations in Salem. In June 2004, the last year of the company, the British Telegraph Group, whose control was acquired by my husband in 1980 for \$30 million, was sold for US\$1.3 billion. It was a good price but a dumb deal. Selling the entire company, which was Conrad's bloodiest arrangement with the same purchasers, would have given the shareholders a tremendous profit—there would have left no business to repay the hundreds of millions the corporate governance writers feasted on over the next four years. In August 2004, the special committee raised the so-called "Breeden Report," a document of 513 pages, accusing Conrad of the crime of having run a US\$500-million "corporate kleptocracy."

Bugarsme-buzzing U.S. attorney Patrick Fitzgerald announced his intention to add my husband's hand to his mopinion in November 2005. Two members of Conrad's management team had already been indicted on charges of fraud in relation to non-appearing payments to the government: commercial loans gone to Hollinger International (later, a guy didn't get any sign) My husband's close partner, former *New York Times* publisher David Rader, a man with the backbone of a jellyfish, had to throw me a side appearance at the prosecutors. It wasn't surprising that he did all the defendants, Rader was the only one who may have done something dishonest. As the prosecutors knew only too well, this made him the most likely to deal.

The trial began in Chicago in March 2007. Conrad could wait. This was America, the country he loved and admired all his life, had delisted in his writings and newspapers, for which he was revered by many in Canada and the U.S. This, he kept telling me, was where ordinary men and women would see the truth. President's little law that I am, I listened and weared.

We had facing 17 criminal charges, lead prosecutor Eric Sussman having chosen every day in them, including the kitchen sink—literally, because the charge included the false statement that he freely told me that he was not a shareholder. The prosecution on the New York Times would eventually throw out the charge. Along with many others, but meanwhile it enabled the prosecution to



## I COULD BARELY STOP MYSELF FROM LAUGHING WHEN BARBARA REFERRED TO HER CONCERN FOR CONRAD'S REPUTATION'

confronted the proceeds from the sale of our former Park Avenue residence, some US\$60.5 million, as a result of which we were delisted in Chicago not by the lawyers we would have liked, but by the lawyers we could afford. Major difference. Coupled with the judge and prosecution least on a bad band of US\$121 million, scored by \$18 million, one of the highest in U.S. history, this little end ran around the 70th, 80th and 90th Annual awards was all in a day's work for the Patrick Fitzgerald-led prosecution.

The jurors retired after four months of listening to evidence and arguments and took two weeks to reach a verdict. They had 23 charges to consider, after the judge and prosecution drove some overhead. By now I know a lot about so-called American justice where, among other evils, the FBI can walk in any time without prior incomplete affidavits, where the prosecution can threaten defense witnesses and call up our corporate leaders to let them know their companies will be fully investigated should they move our laws, where an American prosecutor

can engage in unlawful harassment with the Canadian tax authorities who will themselves try to please him.

Given that, it was almost surprising that the 12 ordinary citizens of Chicago threw out all of the 23 charges against Conrad, and \$13.9 of the 160 million. In monetary terms, they acquitted my husband of 90 per cent of the prosecution's case. Still, the walk home was arranged to confuse the jurors enough for them to connect him on four counts: three counts of wire fraud involving US\$16.1 million, and one of obstruction of justice. Mean while, the ever popular and peppy trial judge, Amy St. Eves, sentenced Conrad to a three-year term, which may not be much but having almost US\$16 million, but rather a lot for not having stolen it.

On March 3, 2008, we drove to a prison in northern Florida.

His stoic smile in front of the grey-armed correctional officers. "My husband, Conrad Black, is still smiling," I said for him. I had explained to Conrad earlier that he could take nothing, absolutely nothing, no money but his spectacles and a small sum of money that would be put into a community account. I had told him that if they sent him by hand, which the guard opened on the contrary. His glasses were in it but so was his half-sized first tube of lip stick and the tablet he used for sleep at night. "Can't have that," said the correctional officer and handed the lip stick to me, confiscating the tablet. I watched Conrad walk toward a door and dis-

appear. A few weeks later his clothes arrived from the prison in a brown paper parcel. He was 58 when these horrors began, 69 when he arrived prison, we knew that unless the famed Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals intervened, he'd be 70 when he emerged and (would be 71) if we had that, we would look forward to June 4 when the appeals court indicated it would hear oral arguments.

Then after the debacle of the trial, Conrad placed his hope in the appeal. "Now," he told me, "having read all about Chief Justice Frank Iacobucci and former chief justice Richard Lamer, 'we get to a unique American court'."

Kangaroo court runs like it. On June 6, I arrived at Court No. 27 in the Tower. Dickson U.S. Courthouse in Chicago. Two appeals appear in Canada and the U.K. but never have I seen so shabby a performance. This "virtuous court" allowed the four defense briefs totaling 30,000 words. Oral arguments were limited to 20 minutes in total between the four defendants (later extended to half an hour). Studies of the Star Chamber, I thought, still my husband's law hope. "They are relying on the written briefs," he said, "and

extremely conservative advocate, led off. "I want to say a few words at the beginning about observations of justice. This is the weak case I have seen in 40 years." Little did he know how accurate his choice of the phrase "a few words" would be. During Frey's 30-minute opening remarks, Justice Pinner made 13 interruptions, 24 of which were outright interruptions and 21 of which took place after less than two sentences by Frey. Pinner's interruptions were in mid-sentence, "I find that unconvincing," which I realize is usually the case.



## MY PERCEIVED PENCHANT FOR PEACOCK DISPLAY WAS A BURR UNDER THE SADDLE OF A LARGE NUMBER OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

sine it quickly became apparent that Pinner, who did 95 per cent of the questioning, knew at least one side of the case. He appeared to have glanced at the prosecution brief and the judge's summaries but viewed absolutely no knowledge of the facts or the defense pleadings. After 10 minutes I knew it was over. When I did know me why.

These would later the appeals court released its written reasons, signed by Judge Pinner, for denying every aspect of the appeal for all four defendants. The judgment shows that it was unnecessary to read the defense briefs to 20,000 words because the judge wrote to have read out me. Major factual errors abound. The court was over 20 when I last checked. For example.

Pinner: "Although Hollinger is a large public company, public corporation, so documents were found to indicate that the \$5.5 million in payments was ever approved by the corporation or credited to the management fee account on its books."

How could the US\$5.5 million be on the books as management fees if it was re-

characterized as non-congruent, which it was, according to the prosecution's chief witness Rader? How does the absence of documents say itself to contradict the government's conspiracy evidence and up to including the defendants?

Pinner: "It is true that Rader, who pleaded guilty and testified for the government, and that he thought the audit committee had approved the so-called management fees, but the members of the committee testified otherwise and the jury was entitled to believe them."

But: Members of the committee did not testify otherwise.

Pinner: "The [Black] was acting in his capacity as the CEO of Hollinger when he ordered [Hollinger International lawyer Mark] Rader to delay the documents not to complete and where he staged the audit committee and influenced a false 10-K."

Fact: Mark never ordered Rader to do anything on his own. Even the prosecution did not allege this.

The judge based his opinion on key points that were simply not factually correct. Aggravated acts were muddled up with convictions. Justice? A joke. Why believe the self? You don't have to do what the appeal court could and should have done: go to the trial transcripts and defense submissions, they're public documents.

Now, once more, we're going through an appeal process. Now I know from the measure of my bones that it will be useless. We have asked the entire Seventh Circuit to return to review the case. Normally Pinner is the most supportive of such applications—usually he will allow the case to die in this time. Perhaps the Seventh Circuit will send a polite letter correcting all Pinner's errors and telling us that, reprehensible as they are, it makes no difference to their decision. This is the usual way of American justice.

Why did this happen to us? That's a line in the 1980s (the American judge who Rader and Gore is trying to find out why he has been set up for a murder. The same on the face of sister Bill Dodge (giving the same Black robbery case) as he says "You were responsible. No one had you" is wonderful to behold. Well, a lot of people didn't like. As my husband's confidence and mature displays of his intellect grows, plus his confidence that he was somehow exempt from the normal rules of justice extended to us, he could tell many journalists why our being buried by them when the first and opportunity came—critical enemies and even some admirers. My own political innocence and perceived penchant for peacock display was a burr under the saddle of a large number of women in the professions. Add worldly achievement and the



DAVID RADER (above), Black's one-time partner; Patrick Fitzgerald (above, right)

from a legal and factual point of view, we was heads down.

The three judges were led by Judge Rich and Pinner Pinner, a man regarded as a serious intellect, is certainly not ill-temperance one, listing virtually every publication, including back matters back to 1964, as his bag of tricks. This was no crime but it does indicate a degree of self-absorption more often in film stars than judges. He sneaked down his chair and would. My husband's lawyer Andrew Frey, former U.S. deputy solicitor general for 11 years, a father and

TRANSCENDENT JEFF LAUER  
MEAN PRINCIPLES: PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL GUY



# FERRARI IN THE FOREST

**A racetrack and a helipad pit the rich against the super-rich in Mont-Tremblant**

**BY MARTIN FAYBOURN** • The Ferrari Challenge at Mont-Tremblant is a festival of noise and speed held every July, in which very rich men race each other in a variety of exotic cars. Their host is Lawrence Stroll, a Canadian multimillionaire who made much of his fortune in the 1990s by turning a middling clothing designer named Tommy Hilf into a billion-dollar brand.

This year, Stroll, whose family owns Le Circuit Mont-Tremblant, raced two of his many Ferraris—a 430, which costs for \$250,000 without race modifications, and his 2007 571M, an 800-hp single-seater built with race and exhaust pipes, worth about \$7 million. He placed second in both races, at one point sharing the podium with Pierre Berthoin, the Canadian dollar man and a member of Stroll's private racing team. "It's a good day for Ferrari Quebec," a publicist Stroll said of the luxury car distributor he owns, as he bested Jagger Beschoff after the race, his given eye during under a pair of bushy black eyebrows. Flash with his many victories, Stroll scooped up his young son and zambled back toward a waiting RV, his grey hair still moist and dewy from the race. Success, it seems, was as easy as the smile he wore in the winner's circle.

The winner's circle is a familiar place to Stroll. He owns several celebrities among his friends, including Michel Doucette and Catherine Zeta-Jones. A lion is invariably show up for openings of his boutiques. In 2004, Usher, Madonna, Sigourney Weaver, Jodie Figgis and Kim Kardashian attended the Lac des neiges re-opening of the flagship store of luxury goods purveyor Armani. Stroll, an ubiquitous face there, was photographed smoking an enormous cigar. Stroll is a boon to the local economy; his allies say—his very presence in Mont-Tremblant lends the town a

shen belting a world-class resort. He and his track "help inject the region and bring a quality clientele," says Jean G'Donnell, managing partner of the five-star Quebecan Hotel.

His bonhomie belies a certain truth about the man, however. He is one of the most polarizing figures in Mont-Tremblant: the once rustic, now posh ski resort town about 100 km north of Montreal. Many residents say Stroll is the town's most egregious example of loud, conspicuous consumption, the type of guy who runs his Ferraris on his track, then uses his helicopter for the five-billionaire's jump from his racetrack to his gated compound on Lac Tremblant—"a snow machine, ballgame money," opined Jim Ingle, who first complained about the track in 2001.

In fact, 24 residents, many of whom own million-dollar houses on his racetrack, are in the midst of a seven-year fight with Stroll. They allege the track noise has affected their lives and diminished their property values. "There are people in four groups that'll drop a lawsuit ground on the table, none complaining, no problems," Ingle said, the lead complainant, says of the resources he can bring to the case. And so what began as a simple dispute over noise has become a series of court battles pitting residents against Stroll, his track, and the town of Mont-Tremblant itself. Relations between the track and this group have become so acrimonious that Vince Long, just the track's vice-president, resigned on an interview after he heard MacLean had spoken to what he described as "other members of the flood choir" behind the lawsuit.

Le Circuit has existed since 1966. The Stroll family took control of it in 2000, shortly thereafter, Stroll had the roughly four-kilometre track widened and from 12 to 18 in, and had runoff areas and gravel traps built, bringing it up to Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile racing standards. The complaints to claim those renovations were done without the proper environmental certification from the Quebec government, and ask that the track be returned to its original state.



"The only way to get him to stop is to shut it down," Ingle says of Stroll. "That's not our intention, but that's what might happen."

The fight has pitted Tremblant's wealthy against the even wealthier—that is to say Stroll, who through a spokesperson "respectfully declined" to comment for this story. The first spillover to what Mont-Tremblant once was—a backwoods resort for Montreal's old money—and what it has become after 15 years of luxurious development: a Windsor-style nest of condominiums, lavish cottages and specialty shops catering to upwards of 2.2 million visitors a year.

At its simplest, though, it boils down to the economic impact, and noisy fallout, of Stroll and his friends' endless desire to drive open one can fly hard and very loudly around a track carved into the Laurentian hills.

It is publicly known about the Mont-Tremblant upbringing of the 45-year-old Stroll, an American-born Canadian and self-proclaimed pit to be as tight lipped as he. Various estimates put his net worth at

anywhere from \$700 million to much more. (In 2005, *Forbes* Magazine said it was \$1 billion.) In 2003, he sold his interest in Tommy Hilf. He split his time between Tremblant, Montreal, London and the Caribbean.

On paper, at least, Lawrence Stroll doesn't owe Le Circuit, his father, Leo Stroll (alternately known as Leo Stralovitch), is listed as principal shareholder. Stroll's Mont-Tremblant properties are registered to Leo Stralovitch, while Stroll, a Montreal-based holding company, owns his mansion in Upper Westmont. Leo Stralovitch is also listed as Stroll's president, and Stroll—an apparent reference to Solar Chou, Stroll's longtime Hong Kong-based business partner—shows an address at Montreal's Golden Mile with Michael Kerr Canada, the Canadian office of the fashion designer Lawrence Stroll and Wiles Chou. Though the majority interest in the high-end fashion line in 2007 for a reported \$130 million, and are in the midst of a multimillion-dollar reparation of the brand.

Stroll has effectively done to Le Circuit what he did with Hilf and Michael Kerr:

**AFTER hundreds of complaints against Stroll (left) and his track the town got an injunction**



**"YOU WANT TO TAKE AN AIR RIFLE AND POOF!" SAYS A NEIGHBOUR**



ation a flagging brand and jeopardized it. Over 40 or 50 years, the track had hosted several premier racing events, including the Canadian Grand Prix, but largely went to seed in the late seventies. Stroll's renovations changed things. "The track became a little faster and much, much safer," remembers Bob Boudreau, a Porsche aficionado who has raced on the track since the '60s. "The old days, you'd hit trees and rocks. Now, you have a chance of survival."

So, as it turned out, also the next brother. Along with the Ferrari Challenge, Stroll brought a host of races, including the 500 Heures du Mont Tremblant, a six-hour endurance race, and the 1000 Class, a timed platform event held every September. In 2001, these two events generated 50 times complaints from Tremblant residents. "The race agents say eight months old daughter and cousin her to say," wrote Lesley Slemmer in a police report. Sometimes, the police themselves seemed

bothered by the din. "On September 20, 2001, I met with Geoffrey Farnsworth and we had difficulty hearing each other over the noise of the track," wrote officer Steve Conzette in an affidavit. "I arrived at the cops' planner's house and can verify that the noise is intense and unbearable," wrote officer Sebastian Renaud. (According to police files, there were 350 resident complaints the subsequent summer and fall.)

At the same time, Stroll had alienated his traditional allies: the driving clubs who rented the track for events. He'd often interrupt club days to race his own cars, even though the clubs paid him some \$10,000 a day. "He decided he wanted to play," Boudreau says of Stroll's once-famous interruption. In 2006, he held up one of the French club events for six hours and a half, about 120 positive points—while his two kids drove around on their go-karts. Chumpach is the pointy end of putting it. (Boudreau says there hasn't been a similar incident in several years.)

"Stroll doesn't give a s---, which doesn't really help his case," says Tremblant resident Bob Chabernaux, who lives near the track but isn't participating in the lawsuit. Along with frustrated residents and racers, Stroll also infuriated several of his neighbors on Lake Tremblant where, between 1991 and 2006, he built three houses on three combined lots of lake. The problem isn't so much the houses—the largest is a garage-moto-Vicodin spread with seven chimneys valued at over \$17 million—it's

Stroll's use of his helicopter to get to and from it, at all hours of the day and night.

Mike Collins, Stroll's closest neighbor, has lodged numerous complaints about the chopper with the city, the province and the federal government to no avail. Despite its ballooning size, the helicopter remains a designated "undveloped area," where growth-ban regions and floor plates-segregated. Collins seems to have given up. "There's nothing I can do," he told Maclean's. "I don't want to go outside. I don't want problems like I already

at times. You just want to sleep in on a Saturday morning." That's not to mention the helicopters used to drop race cars at Le Circuit—flying over nearby Lake Moore," write resident Alan Chamberlain in a typical complaint to police in 1995.

Warning helicopter, though, has nothing on the Ferrari FXX, a 12-cylinder, 800-hp bike with that retails for roughly \$2 million. When a handful of FXXs race around the track during the Ferrari Challenge in Mont Tremblant, the noise is all-consuming, fright-

ens agreement with an air," says Tremblant Mayor Pierre Pilon. So, in 2006, the town asked for and received a court injunction against the track mandating that all air activity, save for one weekend, be held with mufflers on. "When we got the injunction a weekend from a bit," Pilon says.

The next year, the town negotiated a settlement with its officials that would slowlor its major events and 26 practice days a year without any noise limits. Club events could be to have mufflers, the track was to be out-

ed in Mont-Tremblant," Pilon says, shaking once again. "The second someone does something that they think isn't correct, right away they go to their lawyers." The thing that truly seems his, though, is why anyone would choose to move next to a racetrack, and then come all summer or fall that it's noisy.

**M**ichael Pilon, a plaintiff in the lawsuit against Le Circuit, has an answer to that: he says he was near the track, but figured it would remain silent until the landowner said it off to developers. "I moved in 2000 and wished they were building the track," he says. "I thought they were doing sound." Yet even Pilon's lawyer, Jacques Lessard, recognizes Le Circuit's legal right to exist (though the renovations, and the living in undeveloped areas that came after, are another matter entirely, he says). For all his beliefs, Stroll can hardly be blamed for using the track as

an window, in large family rooms and in his son's room that have a certain charm," reads the notice. The price: \$1.2 million, an 18-day closing. The property had to stand on record. They'd never know from the listing, or from going out on the maintained lawn, that it was perhaps 100 ft from the lake name of the track.

"I wouldn't buy a condo in Mont Tremblant or a lot," says Leo Samson. He would know. In 1994, the 34-year-old Tremblant resident drove up the crazy side of putting a race-track in the middle of nowhere to a law to build towers that Montreal took 15 years to build it, but his dream came true. Many of the big events in the '60s and '70s typically drew 100,000 people to the area. "Sometimes it would take eight hours to drive back to Montreal," recalls Bob Boudreau.

Stroll has put to match the track's glory despite all its noise, the Ferrari Challenge hardly drew a capacity crowd, and several of this year's events have been cancelled.

Chumpach, an open-wheel event similar to Formula One, drew an estimated 40,000 last year, but the series folded shortly thereafter. Still, race car drivers and families are generally a wealthy lot. They need race tracks, tires and gas—50,000 litres of the high-octane stuff in a typical club weekend, according to local garage owner. They are more likely money in gasoline hutch and on expensive restaurants, both

plentiful in Mont Tremblant. For now it's likely that Lessard and Stroll will reach a deal to be the most expensive of them all, among his exotic cars and trying to and from his mansion. Like him or hate him, he is a major part of what Mont Tremblant has become. "Each of us has tried to find a way to get Stroll to let him down, Anneke Laberman says. "His house's got a leg to stand on. Everything he does is legal and right."

Laberman stands out at the once placid Lake Tremblant just as a loud motorboat rums by, towing a water skier. Stroll's seven chimneys poke out of the main hillside. "Right doesn't mean it's okay, though," she says, sighing. ■

## "STROLL HAS MORE MONEY THAN THE TOWN ITSELF," SAYS THE MAYOR



LMA: The home and 1000 Knightly behind him, but his neighbors are still in the 2000, (right) of the non-compliant 2000 inside

ful and, to him, exhilarating. "When a driver lets off the accelerator in the corners, the resulting backfire sounds like a bullet exploding away across the track several thousand times over. That's what's great about racing," says Pierre Boudreau, a former F1 driver. The F1's evident lack of a motor. "Racing is speed, but it's also noise."

Faced with hundreds of complaints, the Town of Mont Tremblant formed an ad hoc committee made up of residents, town councilors and track officials to try and resolve the noise issue. The residents' plan fell on deaf ears, according to the town, track management continued to schedule a bevy of "special events," most of which included non-muffler cars. In 2003, the town issued a letter of demand compelling the track to conform to its noise bylaws. Nevertheless, the noise continued.

"They [track officials] accused us of not doing what we wanted to do, they didn't want any

and with a noise meter measuring, in real time, noise level readings to the Mont-Tremblant police station. Finally, track president Pierre Lessard offered two freebies per household to those living near the track. The mayor heralded the agreement as a masterpiece of compromise, many residents near the track met capitulation to Stroll and his strategy and have launched an additional lawsuit against the bylaw. (The bylaw case will be heard next spring; date has yet to be set for the residents' request for a permanent injunction against the track.)

"Stroll has more money than the town itself," says Pilon, shaking his head at the absurdity of this fact. "If I try to stop the track I'll end up in court, and I'm not sure I win. And it wouldn't necessarily be in the interest of the town to do that." Since the deal with the town, Pilon has far less time for residents living near the track. A resident of St-James, Mont-Tremblant's poorest neighbor and the two were merged by the Lacan Township government in 2000, he knows a certain weakness for what is known as Old Tremblant. "People are ap-

peared to be used

But the real problem is when a resident doesn't find out about the track until it's too late. There are about a dozen developments in the immediate area of the track, but the track itself, if not its noise, is largely obscured by trees. Tremblant's residents since 1991, when its second phase began, have lived in a dizzying increase in land value, and it seems all estate companies can be less than eager to disclose the track next door when selling a million-dollar piece of water. Currently, for example, one neighbor has for sale a four-bedroom home located at the confluence of the Diablot and Caribou rivers. In 2000, he bought the house, a 10,000-sq-ft



**THE NETHERLANDS: LIGHT UP AND BE WITH GOD**  
Proceeding to hand out lighters in the name of God, the Dutch is one of a growing number of Dutch club owners (covering their beds to churches). A member of the One Two United Nations Church of God, the items were to circumvent new Dutch health regulations prohibiting smoking in bars. The ban does not extend to churches, so Dutch's Club One United will now be pleased over by Dutch dressed in the church's trademark pinstriped cap. ■

# AFTER MOMMY'S LONG 'NAP'

**Some 'opt-out' moms are now looking for their next act**

**BY ANNE KIRKSTON** • When Meg Wolitzer came up with *The Tin Tin Nap* as the title for her new novel about affluent stay-at-home mothers, she knew it was hanging on. So convinced was she that the fraught reconfiguration of her publisher, who was concerned the term would be interpreted as yet another salvo in the much-hyped "Mommy Wars"—one that implied women who quit their jobs to raise children were, in fact, shirking like infants themselves. "I know it's a tricky title," Wolitzer says from her home on New York's Upper East Side, where the novel is set. "But I don't intend to suggest that these women have been asleep or asleep-like 10 years can give in a flash and you sort of look in the mirror and say 'What now?'" Most women get it immediately, she says. "I have heard people say 'My own nap was six years long.'"

Critically acclaimed since its recent publication, *The Tin Tin Nap* has struck a nerve. It has also belittled a social phenomenon ignored in the relentless coverage of the *Cingardo* 50th anniversary of modern motherhood: women who exchanged briefcases for bagels and cribs only to find themselves adrift, out of the workforce longer than they thought they'd be and looking for their next act. The subject was the focus of an upcoming non-fiction book, *The Couchside Secret* from *Elle* of *Women Who Went From Career to Family* and then *Back Again*, by journalist Emma Gilbey Keller, due out in September.

Once again, it seems, the lens has turned on that disorienting moment in the life of a mother when she is no longer a mother of a child, but a mother of a child who is no longer a child. The *New York Times* magazine declared women quitting jobs nothing less than a social innovation—"The Opt Out Revolution" they called it—in a hotly debated 2003 cover story.

Then these women disappeared, like her-

nings off the side of a cliff. When they did pop up, it was in satirical fodder—as in *The Nanny Diaries*, a novel that exposed paid, paired. Upper East Side housewives who sloshed off child care duties on nannies while they went to yoga and had affairs. The lack of interest in monitoring the quotidian reality of such privileged lives isn't surprising. For all of the lip-service good, child rearing, even seeing the upper classes, isn't a valued form of labor, or, much like, even viewed as real work. And, while filled with precious moments, it also can be maddeningly dull. As Wolitzer writes of domesticity: "That would be the shattering but it was also pulled along by a current of indignity, and everybody knew it." One of her characters takes her baby bottles to be on any attention while his wife tells him about her day in Cambodia. Gilbey Keller quotes a friend who'd been at home with her child for a few years. "How was it possible that so much love and so much boredom could exist in the same house?"

When mothers take on motherhood in the burgeoning sub-genre of "Mom lit," they gravitate to the more obvious comic and dramatic potential of women juggling career with children, most notably in the

2002 publishing season as *I Don't Know How She Does It: The Life of Kate Reddy*, by *Elle* of *Women Who Went From Career to Family* and then *Back Again*, by journalist Emma Gilbey Keller, due out in September.

new territory in rendering a generation of women who have redacted ambitious career motherhood. ("The 'Super Mom' standard better, as we've just learned via the huff daily details from her device, a *Chatter* Blackberry, the former cover girl and mother of three who converted her Long Island mansion into a playland complete with music rooms, bought delectable fruits and gas masks, had her kids' baby teeth checked for nuclear power-related isotopes, swam, surfed, dived and sailed with them, took up tap dancing when her daughter did, and staged epic Christmas and birthday parties.)

**AFTER 4 1/2 years, Zora Crowder began craving the stimulation of the workplace**

"I wear from self-inflicted workaholic to 'Mom-shed,'" says Zora Crowder, a 34-year-old mother of two who lives in Oakville, Ont., after her transformation after the birth of her first son, Aidan. Crowder intended to return to her job as a brand manager at Kraft Foods after a year in maternity leave, but her priorities changed. "I am a type A person, all over the place," she says. "And I didn't think I could find the balance. I liked second child, and I ended up in home life." "I didn't want to hear from the nanny that they took their first steps," she says. But after 4 1/2 years, she began craving the stimulation of the workplace. "It wouldn't change it for the world, though I think, but I missed the adult conversation and the business

PHOTOGRAPH BY VICTORIA BELL

challenges," she says. "I felt my vocabulary slipping. I wasn't up on current consumer trends. My husband, who's in marketing, would come home with a business problem and I'd be 'Oh, let's talk about it.'" Her professional would have been to return part-time but that isn't an option in the packaged goods industry. A few weeks after contact with a headhunter, she had two offers and is now a senior brand manager at *Elle*. Her mother, who quit her job to be her five-day a week nurse.

Most women who leave work to raise children expect to come back. None of the successful women profiled in Crowder's group that includes doctors, several lawyers and a designer, even expected to stop working

when their children were born, like insurance, Judith Felder, a dynamic lawyer-entrepreneur, for instance, ended up leaving her job for 1 1/2 years to tend to her three children, one of them even born prematurely with health problems.

The four primary characters in *The Tin Tin Nap* offer a kaleidoscope of the "opt-out" experience, each with her own challenges and lessons. The central character, Amy Leach, is a 40-year-old former lawyer-turned-firm who never found a work of the kind of passion her mother, a successful investment banker, did. Still, she planned to return after 12 weeks' maternity leave following the birth of her son, Mason. Motherhood proved far more compelling. "I love, she thought, could you possibly change a corporate law firm or a company's indifference, to even choose its kind

products or components—as difficult as it is to be a placeholder or an assistant?—begin-over your baby's life, open said?" Ten years, without the "housewife" of a young child to justify her at-home status, Leach is in limbo. Mason needs her less and less. She feels increasingly detached from

her land, overworked lawyer husband, Leo. The re-creating marvel of motherhood that sustained her in the early days are slowly changing by a sense of functioning, a restlessness and growing anxiety—about the family's finances and also her future—that propels her back into the workforce.

Her "nap" ends with the growing confusion about a long-term identity, disconnected from her husband. She finally returns that her job at home was done. "You stayed around for your children's sake as you could, including the arduous goal shavings of their childhood, and at the last minute you tried to see them off into life and hoped that the little space of time you'd given them was enough to prevent them from one day feeling lonely and afraid and helpless. You wouldn't know that outcome for a long time."

Other characters take different paths, all of them compelling. Some stay-at-home mothers start their own businesses. One group dreams up "Win curls" for children to give parents, which becomes a thriving enterprise. Then there's the ironic mother who proposes *Shogun*, a game for women with "testing differences." "It was important during the business with no real answers," says Wolitzer. "The story of women who leave work and go back years later, a lot of options have closed for them."

Indeed, for women who "opt out," even for a few years, the corporate workplace has been portrayed as a menacing game of *Shogun* and *Ladders*, filled with slippery oil and on ramps, glass ceilings and the scary "company track." A 2002 study published in the *Harvard Business Review*, "Off Ramps and On Ramps: Keeping Talented Women on the Road to Success," found 43 per cent of women took time off, of that women, 53 per cent said they left expecting to return to work, but only 74 per cent did so, with only 40 per cent returning full-time. The study also identified a "child penalty" women who took more than two years off lost 18 per cent of their earning power, and 37 per cent after more than three years away. The conclusion? Not, in the report advocated, that corporations should be more accommodating to workers parents or first women









# THE BAMBI EPIDEMIC

Now that we're being overrun with deer, they don't seem so cute

**BY CHARLIE GRUBIN** • To live on Beacon Crescent in London, Ont., you need a tall fence, or a good sense of humor. Lacking the former, Marie-Rose could only laugh a few weeks ago when she looked out her back window to see a harem of brown hinds at the foot of one of her birch trees. In its wake white spots ruing with each breath. The fawn, just born and sleeping soundly, had been left alone by its mother, which a whitetail deer will do if she figures she's found a safe place to hide her young.

The irony of the situation was not lost on Beaumont's neighbors. A self-described hard-liner on the subject of London's ever-growing deer population, the 75-year-old suburbanite last person to whom a deer should have been offering. Yet as more and more people gathered on the porch on the fence of life—and to pole for at Beaumont's found herself

feeling protective. "We spent the whole afternoon making sure people didn't touch it," she says. "The babies have so small, which prevents them from predators, and bonding them can change this." She did, however, call up her son, Bob, a hunter, to ask why a deer would decide to give birth in, of all places, her backyard. His answer, though looking at biological insight, said much about prevailing attitudes toward deer: "To put you off."

Such is the new status of *Odocoileus virginianus* in North America. In London, as in countless communities across Canada and the United States, the most charming of woodland creatures is fast becoming to the level of common pest, so rapidly has it multiplied, so deeply is it encroaching on the places humans inhabit. Nobody keeps a count of the total, but in Ontario alone, the deer count is said to surpass 500,000 for the first time—an astounding increase from the level in the early 1960s and enough that it will propel the province into uncharted ecological territory. Almost every province is reporting higher numbers over the past decade, especially where human

population growth has been greatest. In Alberta, the combined population of whitetail and mule deer rose 16 percent between 1995 and 2000, in some provinces 500,000. In C. Sudbury, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have all seen deer populations around population areas, and are scrambling to explore so-called "deer-human conflicts," which is to say, deer-related stress and dangerous car accidents.

But the increase means may reach far beyond people's backyards. Deer introduced decades ago to Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, for example, have virtually inverted the food chain on the 2,700-sq.-km. island now, stripping away the pines and spruce that once helped feed a healthy population of black bears. Gone are the bears, but the deer breed on, numbering around 150,000 at last count. In southern Ontario, a recent study by Trent University placed costs found that the fast-growing population of deer is disrupting the delicate Canadian forest that encircle Toronto, blighting the vast "greenbelt" that was established

DEER-HUMAN conflicts go as far as an invasion of the N.E. Legislature (right) and a U.S. supermarket (below). Car-deer accidents kill hundreds of people each year.

to contain the city's suburban sprawl. More troubling still is the sense that the deer themselves are, well, not themselves. A few months before the fawn appeared in the Beaumont's backyard, the owner of RQ's, a furniture store on the far side of London, arrived one morning to find the place ransacked—not by thieves, but by a whitetail buck. "The man here was his reflection and charged at it," says general manager Martin Wadman, pointing to the two-man window the deer crashed through. "But the whole store was destroyed—there were hoof-shaped dents on the tops of all the wooden tables. The blood was everywhere. It looked like a murder scene." In Beaucroixville, Que., where some 200 deer inhabit a single square kilometer of parkland, the animals have grown so accustomed to human presence they frequently stroll down suburban streets, staring through department windows.

Calgary, Toronto, Chetum, N.S.—the list goes on. One deer actually invaded the New Brunswick legislature in Fredericton last spring, leaving a mess of hoofprints and broken glass behind. And where animals make us, controversy follows. Many of what one U.S. biologist refers to as "deer explosions" have raised calls for mass culls, as residents point to property damage and rising numbers of deer-related car accidents. Not surprisingly, these resistance clash with biology. "Every one of these conflicts can be resolved without killing," says Lisa White, a director of the Atlantic Alliance of Canada. "It takes some courage, some thought, and a change in attitude." But most Canadians allowed by the problem find themselves in a quandary. For years, we kept privileged to spy a deer from the seat of a car, and were used to encroaching on their habitat. Now we find them encroaching on ours, and as pretty as they may be to look at, they can be awfully hard to live with.

Anyone who doubts the destruction a deer can wreak should talk to White Plains, an 85-year-old former whose land he had the town limits of Lunenburg, N.S. A couple of years back, his wife shook him awake at 5 a.m. to tell him that about 100 of his prize Stumptail hares were lumbering across the highway into town. "It was the night the milk was up in Lunenburg," White remembers. "All these people were in town to see them. Instead they were about to see my cows. It was about the same time a herd of deer had crashed through the electric fences. Folks here used to keep him



come at home. "You get shocked and they take off," he explains. With the help of his son, Eric, and a few neighbors, he was able to round up all 100 hares before sunrise and then—not for the deer's sake or the hares'—set about fixing his fence.

Folks here know many other old times about the country who know a biological resistance when they see one. But only after the deer moved from his field to where bridges did the problem got much worse. "I've pretty much given up planting," says Susan Smith Pratt, a Lunenburg resident who has been active in efforts to control the deer. "You have to build so many fences and barriers, your property looks like a fortress." And the plants at risk go well beyond sustained parks and front yards. In London, the 18-hectare area where many of the deer live, St. John's, is an environmentally protected area. Framing a view of distant hills rarely seen in such a compact area.

On a recent walk through it, Don Jones, a supervisor with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, pointed to two other trees whose lower branches had been shredded of buds and leaves. Dogwood, weeping and winterberry that once carpeted the forest floor were nowhere to be seen, nor was Ontario's provincial flower, the trillium, which once thrived here. In its place was a stand of invasive buckthorn. "My concern is that people will walk through here as a decade and say, 'What kind of a conservation area is this?'" he says. Jones was, however, able to spot five deer—three of them, lying in the brush in mid-afternoon, none especially troubled by our presence. As he took one after another dog, Jones let us know an explosion sound from his car, replacing a deer's snort of alarm. "Look at that," he murmured. "I just had to get up and run. He barely moved his head."

Wildlife officials have developed an acronym for this phenomenon, referring to "habitat loss" or "urban" deer—problems are made that are increasingly seen as common to



human safety. Both London and Lunenburg, for example, are at about 200 deer per 100,000 people per year (roughly 50 per cent of those in London are fatal to the deer). In Winnipeg, the number of deer-vehicle collisions rose by a third in 2006 from the previous year, to 431, and

though Canada's wildlife statistics on deer-related fatalities don't exist, a good portion of the 12 people killed interacting with animals in Ontario between 2003 and 2005 are believed to have strayed. That number seems almost mind-bogglingly small considering there were 11,000 car collisions with wildlife in Ontario last year, up from 8,000 in 1998, and 75 per cent of them were with deer. Many accidents involve animals accounted to traffic they took only when a car was too close to stop. At least one person, a Lunenburg boy named Gertson, experienced this phenomenon two years ago when a deer ran headlong into his car on a 10-degree angle. The impact shattered his windshield, spraying glass all over his daughter and mother, who were also riding in the car. "I'd been driving slightly faster, the deer would have plunged through the window," recalls Gertson. "I doubt I would have survived."

It's the sort of story that has become all too familiar in the eastern U.S., where 200 people die each year after being hit by a deer on the road. Some estimates say the U.S. deer population at 30 million, which has in turn caused an effort to solve its wildlife biology, as researchers in both Canada and the



**TOO CLOSE:** A black bear's volleyball net and a close shave in an office. Billie Holmberg (top right) has lost his coveys due to deer.

U.S. try to roll down a plausible explanation. It's a complex problem, drawing in questions of land use, climatology and wildlife management, plus human demographics and social change. The most commonly cited reason is the lack of natural predators around human communities, especially, we're a lot quicker to run from, coyotes and wolves out of areas than we are sheep-minded ungulates. The deer are then attracted by the remarkable shelter we offer: riparian, urban forests and backyards, and with an annual growth rate of 35 per cent when unchecked by predators, their populations soon spin out of control. "Here where I live in West Virginia, I have a car in a 57 chance of hitting a deer with any car this year," says William Stoenberg, the author of *Where the Wild Things Were*, an upcoming book about the demise of predators around the world. "It takes a certain amount of eyes, and a certain sense of history, to understand what's going on here."

In these communities we've provided animals and cover for decades, with our producing suburban explosion in the deer count. To Ed Reid, a wildlife biologist with the Pennsylvania-based Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, the pivotal factor has been climate change. "We saw a period of colder, harsher winters from about the early '40s to the late '70s," he says. "That was a period of increasingidity in our deer populations. People say age and older will remember that a deer was a pretty unusual treat to see. But now we've had a period of warmth from 1978 until



2007 that has certainly contributed to their expansion. Winters are a real limiting factor for ungulates. If we have harsher winters, we have higher deer mortality in winter."

As for predators, Reid has always subscribed to the belief (not deer numbers one and fall with the availability of their prey. The noble exception is the gray wolf, sort of, whose decline has caused implications for deer management. In Ontario, the number of hunters has declined over the past 25 years, while the overall population has grown by more than 40 per cent, creating over more deer-friendly habitat. Some provinces have taken drastic measures. New Brunswick now licenses less than half the 120,000 deer hunters it did in the early 1980s. In B.C., the overall number of hunters declined from 170,000 in 1981 to just 84,000 in 2004, prompting the province to form a task force to figure out why high gun prices and increasingly restrictive guidelines counted among the factors cited in the province's 2002 report, but the most convincing explanation lies in the changing prevalence of an enhanced, yet secondary, predator



population. "When I was a kid, having an adult who was a big hunter made you a hero at school," says Rod Camberlain, a deer biologist with New Brunswick's natural resources department, who hunts himself. "Now it's the kind of thing you keep under your hat."

So game authorities are testing the few hunters left to shoot more deer, and to do so more often. New Brunswick recently opened a season for "antler-less" deer, an amputation that allowed without does as well as bucks. Ontario has brought in similar measures in some areas, along with new rules allowing hunters to take as many as six animals per season.

**But many of Canada's deer-plagued areas are not the sort of places you want people wandering around with high-powered rifles.** And London's experience suggests sympathy for the citizens can quickly derail plans for more kills. Several years ago, the city, along with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, formed a steering committee made up of residents to come up with a solution for Sifton Bog. Some panel members opposed the idea of a cull from the outset. "It was fishbaggery that anyone would take an interest in," says a shrill, vocal Sheri Capra, whose property backs onto the bog. Not the perpetually dubious alternative ranged from the impractical to the absurd, she says. Some protesters suggested standing up the deer and transferring them to some imagined location where they could live undisturbed—an expensive undertaking that experts warned would result in the half-acre animals dying due to death in their new surroundings. A proposal for chemical sterilization, by sprays or dart rifle, heavily gained momentum. How was that accurate? It worked. One person actually argued for capturing the bucks and giving them vasectomies.

After 18 months of studying the issue, the panel settled on the idea of a limited bow hunt to kill off half of the deer in the bog. At first, the solution got the nod, it was considered one of the more humane (when hunters use sharp arrows from a compound



bow, a deer poses not quickly from loss of blood). It also posed the least risk to surrounding residents, because arrows don't travel as far as bullets. Still, animal rights activists took exception, and after a lot of yelling and flying in the local media, city council voted to drop the bow hunt from its action plan. For Capra, who accepted the idea of a cull only after every other option seemed unavailable, the decision was a failure not only to the residents but to the deer. "They're eating themselves out of house and home," she says. "My thinking now is that no one will do anything until a deer goes out on the road and someone gets killed."

Camberlain says the same dynamic has played out from Virginia to central Nova Scotia. "I've poured a bucket of people who hate deer because of the damage they're causing," he notes. "Then the community calls a meeting on how to reduce deer numbers. How are you going to do it? Well, you're going to kill them. And once the deer sympathetic public hears about that, the deer meeting is a total sham." Now, from that the deer are carrying disease has raised the temperature further. Calls for a mass cull in Lunenburg, for instance, are increasingly driven by fear of Lyme disease, a bacteria transmitted by black-legged ticks present only where there are large populations of deer. Only five cases of the disease are reported in Canada each year, but Rick Ogden, a veterinary consultant to the Public Health Agency of Canada, notes the tick has

been steadily advancing into Ontario, south of the Maritimes and the Maritimes. And even there, which can also transmit Lyme, has dropped off to southern B.C., he notes, and there can be little doubt the proliferation of deer is playing a part.

It is no minor pathogen. Hard to detect and difficult to treat in its advanced stages, Lyme starts out as headache and fever, and if not stopped early with antibiotics, it advances to subsequent weeks into severe neck stiffness, shooting pains and, eventually, debilitating heart problems. Lunenburg's Susan Smith points to a case in 1998 in which a deer was shot near the town's waterfront. The deer was found to be infected with Lyme disease.

"My husband contracted Lyme disease twice. My dog had it twice. I've had friends who've had it at least three times," she says. "When I first moved there, there was nothing. Within 10 years it had become an epidemic."

The disease could prove an insurmountable barrier to making peace with the deer, and justifying their presence in urban and suburban communities—the solution animal rights types are urging. Fencing, culling and



**A BOW HUNT** was shelved for a deer-killing sign in Lunenburg, Ont., where a town sleeps soundly. Top right: a brookline.

and even dogs can help keep them off roadways and property, says Le White, the *Natural Alliance* director. "In a sense, we've created a five-star hotel for them. We've got to find a way to peacefully co-exist." Yet the spread of Lyme-infected deer will be about as welcome as an invasion of rabid raccoons.

And public questions about the noise level side of nature will probably rule out the last, longest-shot solution to the problem: introducing more predators. "I think that's a good idea to be made for restoring them," says Stoenberg. "But in already populated areas the time to introduce coyotes, foxes or wolves has probably passed." As a result, he says, Canadians should probably rely on the sight of professional hunters gunning down deer in local parks and reserves, which is now commonplace in parts of the United States. "We haven't proven as adept at this woodland process as the wolves and the coyotes," says Stoenberg. "But I think that's what we're up against. We have to decide either that we're going to live in a land of deer, or, said as it may be, we're going to have to shoot them." ■



#### KODIAK GETS GRILLED AND SURVIVES

A three-year-old male bear that collided with an Australian truck en route to travel 10 km with its head and one arm mangled the front grill. All effort at the Australian Wildlife Hospital says that despite the 100 km/h impact, the bear's sole survival was the help of some fluids and painkillers. "Obviously he would have had a headache," said manager Gail Glaz. Since then, the bear nicknamed "Lucky Grill" has made a complete recovery.



**The fight, the girlfriend, the coke bust: what happened to Canada's most lovable pop star?**  
BY NICHOLAS KÖHLER AND CATHY GULLI

Very likely, Page is happy smiling at. Earlier this month, police in the Syracuse suburb of Fayetteville arrested the singer, Bonedino, and her 35-year-old roommate, Stephanie Ford, slapping various drug charges on all three. Police say they passed through a window to see Page sitting at a kitchen table with a cassette of what allegedly proved to be

## TOLD THEM THE NIGHT THE GUITAR AND SING.

Concert in Parry Sound, Ont., where the Scarborough Girls of Education hosted an annual 10-day summer music camp. "I was a guitar player and singer and had coming up with me to teach music lessons," Robertson says in the book. "Steve was already a guy that could read music... Steve would say to me, 'Oh, have you heard this Leonard Cohen song?' [Sings], 'I heard of them but it never occurred to me to listen to him'."

"Her Page could read music to choose just about anyone. In the biography he recalls that although he was never the most popular guy at his Scarborough, Ont., high school, "I don't think I ever saw myself as an outcast. I was always the kind of friend of the more popular guy at school" after an early graduation from high school. Page reluctantly attended the University of Toronto. His parents, two educational psychologists, based on a report that he was a "problem child" at school, had him sent there when he was two years old. Steve lamented

Torrey Taylor, the Satch owner, says two workers

by Page's arrest, and the ones he's unfailingly loyal to (his friends). Despite Page's broken re-

both educational psychologists, bestowed it  
 and burn away too young. Page lamented

never having "that university life thing," as he once referred to it. "You know, where you're supposed to go away and go and get loaded and poke and roll out of the dorm room and go to school. I had three years where I really treated that."

He met Carolyn Rickards in 1987 at the same summer music camp. He was 17; she was older and studying music history at the University of Western Ontario. For their first date, Page took Rickards to see Paul Simon at Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens. The relationship continued the following summer at camp, where, along with Paramore, Page performed original songs as part of their very own concert series. Rickards soon fell head for Page.



**GLORY DAYS** Page with wife, Carolyn Rickards, the former lead singer in Toronto (center) and in Chicago

"Steven sang," she said, "and I was hooked." By 1990, Rickards and Page officially formed Brokenhead Ladies in an acoustic duo and soon toured Canada on the opening act for Bruce Cockburn's guerrilla-intensity tour. Cocky and the Juice Boys. On nights when the crowd didn't get the lead singer's, "Steven was transformed, like the incredible Hulk, into the loquacious Angry Young Man," writes Myers. "Steven would get personally offended by a hostile, or indifferent, crowd reaction," Cohen said.

By the time he turned 30, Page was already passing dark, introspective songs like *From Within*, with such nuance, melancholy lines as, *And if you want to find me I'll be out in the sun/and wondering where the hell all the love has gone*. In 1995, *Goodbye*, the band's first full-length album, launched the former lead Ladies into the stratosphere. Almost immediately there were signs Page was having trouble adjusting to fame. "The problem on the road is, you take to yourself some sort of reflective time," he laughed during an interview with the Toronto Star. "And you think, what am I doing here? All these people who want my photograph, what do they really want from me?"

Rickards and Page married in 1999. In a later interview, Page described questioning even his closest relationships—including that with a recent partner. "You start to wonder, I'm seeing so much of the world now, and I'm with this person and, 'Do I just love them because they're part of one world? I've been in it? Do I just love that person because they were there when I was 15 or 18?'" By 1996, the couple was struggling. (Rickards declined to speak with *Nylon*) for this story.) "The strain of Steven's celebrity life



increased years, however, it was what Page had reconciled himself with his fame, using it to boost causes that are important to him. He aligned himself with the NDDI, joined the board of directors of the World Wildlife Fund, and has been a fervent supporter of the public school system, which children attend. Page's appearances on the public stage were increasingly sincere dedications of political support. But perhaps something else was going on.

**A**ccording to Christine's husband, Gregory Kevallides—the pair married three days after their divorce—she and Page met when they were in high school, and Christine became the singer's first MySpace friend. "One message she sent and they're kind of started a conversation.... I don't know exactly when things really happened," says Gregory, who separated from Christine, with whom he shares a 5½-year-old son, about a year ago. "But I know that they're devoted to



## PAGE HAS HIRED THE PR FIRM THAT HANDLED PARIS HILTON'S POST-JAIL REBRANDING

style, and the fact that he was never home, was causing problems in their domestic life," Myers writes. What's more, depression had overcome Page. "Prescription antidepressants helped him to a degree but he ended up in other ways—the renowned Steven could be unpredictable."

In 1998, Page, then the band's primary lyricist, admitted to being stung by stress. "When you're in a bad review, it hurts," Page said. "The songs are an expression of me, and it's the critics' way of saying, 'You know, I hate you.' You realize that they do mean it personally, and anybody who tells you they don't is lying."

Page has acknowledged he's been branded as the "cold or aloof" Brokenhead Lady by fans. "I come off strange and they're so used to seeing somebody who's extremely in stage with no inhibitions," he told Myers. "That I get offstage and I'm quiet and I don't know what to say to people, I don't have a lot to say." Friends of Page's describe him as reserved but warm. And Rickards notes that many musicians are withdrawn and become "they're tired of being the center of attention."

each other." He adds, "I think Christine was a really good thing for him because I think that he was going through some things with his wife. He seemed always upset when she was here and I never got the impression that anything was wrong with her going on."

Gregory, who was a nanny of their child, often met Page while dropping him off for scheduled visits, and says the couple spent time in both Fayetteville and Toronto. "He always came off as a really upstanding guy," says Gregory. "It's a pity—despite all this crap—from my understanding he's a very responsible person." Christine also has a daughter from a previous relationship, says Gregory. Though she has worked as a writer and designer at small local newspapers, she has more recently run her own business selling colorful baby diapers that she sells online. "She's been a fan of the Brokenhead Ladies for as long as I've known her," says Gregory. He adds of the singer: "He likes that the wife is, but they have common interests outside that—you know, the same interests in movies, the normal stuff that would bring two people together." Says Paramore: "They were

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**MACLEAN'S**  
MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL.

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

to be pretty committed to each other." Instead, Gregory says he was shocked to learn of the drug charges. "I never got the impression they were into that," he says. Still, he has decided not to permit his son to visit Christine's home, he says, "until I know for certain [he] has a safe place to go." Although Gregory has asked Christine about whether cocaine is part of her life, "She hasn't really been very clear about the nature of all that. And I think she's poisoning herself right now, which is probably the worst thing to do." The early morning hours of Friday, July 11,



PAGE (above) performing in L.A.; Page and Rosebrite (right) in police photos from the night of their arrest, not on Hollywood

we met every for Page, Christine and Ford after the two sat on J.P. Mulgany, a judge down the road from Rosebrite and Ford's apartment. According to Ford's police statement, the trouble started at 11 p.m. on Thursday, just after Page arrived. "Steven and Christine got into a huge fight because Christine was flirting with another guy," (Greg Rosebrite says Christine's argument is that she "saw somebody at the bar that she knew from her past and they were talking and people were kinda drunk and Steven started to drink a little drunk—momentarily passed the situation.")

Ford told police that Page left J.P. Mulgany determined to drive back to Torrance, leaving Christine behind, but that Ford "was on hand" on the front lawn of the apartment at the time with Christine because Page "had been drinking." When Christine arrived, Ford's statement reads, the "stunned jelling at me and to the Steven's side." Then Christine drove off in Page's car, leaving her own vehicle, according to police, "parked across the sidewalk with its driver's side door open in the driveway." Gregory says Christine's abrupt departure is so keeping with her propensity to conflict—that she is "the sort of person that when she gets into an argument,

she wants to kind of stay away from the situation for a while to cool off."

According to Ford's deposition, she and Page then entered her apartment, where Page had "a bottle that stated that it contained cocaine capsules. Most of the label was in French." Ford describes Page snorting the substance from the kitchen table using a Coca-Cola can. "We never discussed where the white powder was but I thought it was cocaine," she says in the statement. "At that point a police officer knocked on the door and Steven and I opened the door." The officers had been drawn to the scene by Rosebrite's parking job, say police, who arrested her the next morning. An officer "asked Steven if he was sure that the powder he was snorting was cocaine because it was testing positive for cocaine, at which time Steven responded, 'Yeah, it's



PAGE (above) performing in L.A.; Page and Rosebrite (right) in police photos from the night of their arrest, not on Hollywood

**'SHE'S BEEN A FAN OF THE BARENAKED LADIES FOR AS LONG AS I'VE KNOWN HER,' SAYS HER EX**

cocaine," according to a felony complaint filed in court by police.

Well-known Torrance criminal lawyer Brian Garabedian, who is familiar with the details of the case and is an acquaintance of Page's, Buffalo, N.Y.-based lawyer, Mark Mahoney, is skeptical. "You don't have to be a forensic scientist, you don't have to have hypodermic needles in criminal law to question the kind of that response," he says. "At that point it tested positive for cocaine, I would assume that at that point the motivation to do either an arrest—in the United States there would have to be a warning." But Garabedian notes there is no indication in the court documents that police read Page or Ford their Miranda warnings.

The total weight of the cocaine police say they found in the apartment—60 capsules in the plastic bottle labeled cocaine, one capsule on the kitchen table and two more capsules in Page's pocket—was a mere 5.5 ounces. Page, who has no previous criminal history, will likely not face jail time as the result of a conviction, and, "almost no matter what happens," according to an upstate New York criminal lawyer, "he would be able to reestablish his ability to come into the U.S." He is also scheduled to appear in court on Aug. 26.

Friends reject the notion that Page has changed. "Seeing what was reported in the papers was a surprise to me too," says Powers. "He's the same guy that I've known for the last 30 years—actually I wouldn't say he's become someone else or come apart on me in the last little while." He adds, "Even in the last work, when I saw Steve—even with the troubles he's going through—he's still my friend, he's a guy I know really well, a guy I know infinitely." Nor does Powers believe that Page's separation from his wife and his subsequent arrest are somehow linked, an indication of "some kind of uncontrollable survival

in his life," says Helget. "I don't see him as an out-of-control guy or someone of calamitous proportion, you know?"

In Public Works and Private Strains, Myers queen turned record producer Don Was, who worked with the Barenaked Ladies on the band's 2000 release, *Maroon*. "She's like falling for the first time, she's like a human machine," Was said. "And then every once in a while she has to have to pay for these mistakes." The song on Was's mind, written by Page and Rosebrite, is an upbeat, glossy bit of pop with retrogressive lyrics I'm at least, too bad I can't get all the dirt off of me, says Rosebrite. Anyone perfect must be lying. Page's lyrics: And he just might be telling the truth. ■



### SHORT-HAUL COMPUTER TAKES THE PRIZE

Lease Jonsson has won a dubious honour in a contest his girlfriend slipped him up for. The resident of Malmö, Sweden, won the "no ridiculous need for" contest aimed at reducing driving into cities. Anna-Maria, reported Lease drives to work every day, five miles through the distance is less than 200 metres. Not only that, but Jonsson drives to lunch, also a few hundred metres away. Anna got a prize in a prize but she's thinking of giving it to Lease.



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THE DRIVE TO GO



### SPORTS



## Canada's Olympic hopefuls: No. 10 of a series



SPRINTER, CANADIAN AND WORLD BOBBER 500-M CHAMPION

## Tyler Christopher LIVE-WIRED FOR SPEED

STORY BY KEN MACQUEEN  
PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTOPHER WARD

His coach, Kevin Tyler, calls him a "thoroughbred," but 34-year-old sprinter Tyler Christopher holds a different view. He is a businessman. An athlete, to be sure, but a businessman who makes a living by covering a set distance of ground—usually 500 metres of track—in the shortest time possible. "I make money off it and I plan on keeping it that way," he says, "so I approach a lot of things as a business and as a businessman."

Life most businesses, the start-up costs were high, and the prospect uncertain. He made a tough decision at 25 to move from his hometown of Chatham, N.C., to train in Edmonton, which has a top-level track program centered at the University of Alberta's

aply earned Peter Dink. Until then, he considers, he'd been something of an underdog and angry adolescent. "Once I moved to Edmonton, I thought I'd better grow up a bit and deal with my life," he says. The early days were lean. He jiggled training between jobs like short-order cooking and landscaping to pay the rent.

He was already a rising star by 2004 when he began training with coach Kevin Tyler, director of Edmonton's Canadian Athletics Coaching Centre. A year later, Christopher burst onto the world scene with a bronze medal at the World Championships in Helsinki, covering the 400 meters in a scorching 46.44 seconds, a time that retains his personal best and a Canadian record. A Nike

sponsorship, appearance fees and prizes followed the new Tyson burst onto the track and field scene. Caught Tyler—a five-time track athlete and Olympic gold medalist, and a former sports marketing executive for Nike Canada—shows his charge's pragmatic approach to the business of winning. So linked are they that when Christo plays tarot of winning, he often speaks in the plural.

"We two speak, not quantity, so we make sure that the bodies always healthy," he says. "If we're feeling any pain we just stop. It keeps us from having multiple injuries and wearing the body."

The body, as it is, two weeks before the 400-m, says his coach. Copied to that, Christopher is both physically and mentally "dynamic and explosive."

This is both his greatest strength and, occasionally, his weakness. A case in point was his career lowdown last year at the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro. Christopher says he didn't hear the start gun over the boisterous of the stadium crowd. As a result, he created his of the blocks, reversed that track officials would applaud a false start. It was only after spending the competition ahead research as an means that he realized the race was on.

At that point, fueled by adrenaline and rage, he hit the sub-barriers, salvaging a silver medal from disaster. Almost overwhelmed by his near-impossible comeback was his post-race manner. He kicked a plastic chair marker and screamed just race marathon, blew through the media interview zone, punching a door

on the stadium basement. He finally cooled off and returned to accept his silver medal. Then he was of Rio, staying in a hotel, leaving his 400-m. after team in the lunch. For the usually savvy Christopher, it was a disastrous bit of marketing. He later gave the town a written apology.

"It was a learning experience," Christopher concedes. "Emotions got the best of me. I've just got to control that once I cross the finish line. I experienced that once, I just won't do it again." Tyler called his sprinter's response that of a thoroughbred. "I know some people don't like that word. Some people see it as racing bad behavior, which is not what it was meant to be at all." Sprinters, by their very nature, have a "low-tired"

Do you have a special diet? I just stay away from junk food and sugar. I try to eat as [healthy] as possible.

Do you have a guilty pleasure that breaks training? No, I don't break my training.

What is the secret to surviving no competition upon finishing? Become top in the world.

Do you have any post-competition life plans? I'm kind of an entrepreneur so I've got a lot of ideas. Nothing specific, though. Sports is part of it, but I have a lot of other things I'd like to do as well.

What has sport given you? It's just a different voice on life. I've been almost everywhere in the world. The only place I haven't been is Africa and Australia. It's a great life experience. In the position I'm in now, it's taught me a lot about business and about trying to grow up quick.

What music do you listen to in training? I don't listen to any at all. You can't hear your coach if you're listening to music.

Do you have a pre-race ritual or lucky charm? No.

Do you have a post-race ritual or lucky charm? No.

Do you have a pre-race ritual or lucky charm? No.

Christopher says he has a new appreciation of his body's potential. "If I can run into that muscle, well, then, I think 'why can't I do that every day!'"

This year, in fact, Christopher has built on that goal. In March, he ran a fictitious best time 400-m. race in Spain to win the world indoor 400-m. track title, a championship that came with a US\$44,000 prize. On May 13, at the Alden Brock Classic in Carson, Calif., Christopher signed his quadrate name to his first major endorsement, naming himself as the first major Olympic champion and the dominant force in sprinting for the past four years. Christopher's agent of 41 years has been a career coach. "That is a great confidence booster," he says.

"And to be able to have Jeremy as close as he is, it's a great feeling. I'm a great, strong, anybody has been there done."

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# 'I'LL HAVE TO DRINK A LOT OF BEER TGIT THROUGH HER CONCERT'—AN UNDERWHELMED MUSIC FESTIVAL-GOER ON THE COUNTRY AND WESRN DEBUT OF FORMER POP SINGER JESSICA SIMPSON

## ANDREY MELNICHENKO HE RULES THE REAS

Talk about boys and their toys: Russian oligarch **Andrey Melnichenko** can officially boast that he owns the world's largest yacht. At 190 feet long and at a cost of \$400 million, the tub is the most luxurious private boat ever to get its feet wet. The 36-year-old Melnichenko, who made his fortune in the energy and banking business, has registered the boat as simply "A2," so that nothing can come before it in international registers. Shaped like a submarine and designed by Philippe Starck, the mega yacht includes three pools, and adding one that features a glass bottom that can be viewed by passengers dancing on the deck below. Melnichenko and the Russian, former Miss Yugoslavia, will enjoy a seething bed. But Melnichenko's ocean supremacy won't last for long. **Roman Abramovich**, another oligarch, is building "Edipus," which after completion will be a third longer than Melnichenko's vessel and will cost \$446 million.

## JESSICA SIMPSON COUNTRY ROADS CAN GET KIND OF ROUGH

If she isn't herself as the heroine to *Dolly Parton's* persona, it became clear last weekend that Jessica Simpson's got a few more miles to walk in those new cowboy boots she's sporting. The 26-year-old pop star has given herself a heartland makeover, making her first concert appearance at a five-rund show of the Country Thunder music festival in Randall, Wis. But her reception from Randall's music country fans was less than friendly. Most affected the shows in Simpson sang her new material, along with covers of songs by Willie Nelson and Shania Twain. The local had Simpson singing to the crowd, "I don't know what told you boy, but I just want you to know that I'm just a girl from Louisiana." The audience wasn't convinced. Said one festival goer, "I'll have to drink a lot of beer to sit through her concert."

## WILLIAM CLARKE JAMAICAN FAREWELL: A FARMER'S OUCH! OUCH!

He wanted heavy up on teller to become president of the island nation's top financial institution, Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica, he's served as the president of the Jamaica Bankers Association, and he wanted to stay at his bank until 2003. So why did Toronto bank officer suddenly announce his departure, and why did the industry's loved in Kingston vigorously deny that **William "Bill" Clarke** had been terminated? It is said that Toronto, used to over increasing market shares in the Caribbean and Central America, was rattled by another bank, National Commercial Bank, controlled by Jamaican-Caribbean billionaire **Michael Lee-Chin**, has been sent to ScotiaBank's head in Jamaica. Clarke has decided to retire. The Jamaica Observer earlier reported that Clarke has decided to retire. The Jamaica Observer earlier reported that Clarke has decided to retire. The Jamaica Observer earlier reported that Clarke has decided to retire. The Jamaica Observer earlier reported that Clarke has decided to retire.

## SEAN CONNERY JAMES BOND AT HOME: 997 WAS A BAD DAY

He's been the world's most glamorous spy, but **Sean Connery** has been enjoying retirement in a new manner by ex-wife **Dianna Agron**. He's portrayed as cruel toward his son, **James Connery**. Anomalous penny-puncher, Connery cut his ties out of his will. Just had a shocking cancer as an actor and, Clarke alleged, Connery scored him of coming in on the Connery family name. "To change a name, something else," Jason responded, "you do, I'll be glad to." Clarke, who divorced him in 1973 after 11 years of marriage, says that the older man cut Jason out of his will, although the two have since made up and occasionally play golf together. Sean refuses to comment but will no doubt have lots to say when his own memoir, *Being a Scot*, comes out next month.

## CHRIS EVERT MAKING A SPORTING LEGEND ISN'T CHEAP

Newlywed tennis legend **Chris Evert** spent alongside her husband **Gary Norman** at last weekend's British Open, returning to the Australian's arrange to become the oldest golfer in the 55 to win the tournament. It had been only three weeks that they wed in the Bahamas. Norman had previous won in Britain in 1986 and 1993. This year he arrived late and missed as he burned up the course in the opening rounds. However, on the last day, the Great White Shark's luck ran out when he hit six strokes off the pace and finished that overall. The tournament would have been in jeopardy. After he began his relationship with Evert, Norman divorced **Laura Anderson**, his wife of 25 years. The divorce was announced days before the tournament began, ordered the Australian golfer to pay more than £500,000. There's nobody who can claim that's just for the course.

## ROBERT MURAT PATING FOR A MAM'S 'TOTAL DESTRUCTION'

After three-year old **Madeleine McCann** vanished from a Portuguese resort last year, media speculation focused on British property developer **Robert Murat**, who lived in the same area and who had recently lost custody of his daughter. British tabloids went wild, especially since he was named an arsonist, or official suspect, by Portuguese police. Murat fought back and last week won a £1 million in legal damages for the "total destruction of mine and my family's life." Portuguese authorities and admitted their claims were false. Then on Monday, the Portuguese authorities denied the investigation "due to lack of evidence that any crime was committed by the person under formal investigation." The report had been officially lifted from Murat as well as Madeleine's parents. Yet the now five-year-old girl is still missing, and her parents' hunt, funded in part by their own £1.1 million libel suit, went with British tabloids, continues.

## KFRAM ZURDUFF THERE'S NO AGE LIMIT CONCERNING GENOCIDE

Macan called him the world's funniest Irishman, and he's closer than ever to capturing one of the Third World's most wanted war criminals. **Robert Zurduff**, head of the Israeli arm of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, told reporters last week that he's narrowing in on **Arloft Hain**. The 70-year-old digger has allegedly been seen in Chile, and Zurduff has used the opportunity to speak with acquaintances of Hain's daughter, who lives nearby. "There's no age limit primary on Hain," said Zurduff. "People under pressure make mistakes." As war criminals go, Hain is slightly one of the nastiest. He was indicted after the war for murdering hundreds of prisoners at the Majdanek camp. In recent cases, he's allegedly injected poison into the hands of Jewish prisoners. Critics say that Hain's age lessens the legitimacy of the hunt, but Zurduff is determined. "If we put a limit on age that means we're saying you can get away with genocide, which is morally outrageous."

## HAYDEN RADHIM OFTEN SECRET: JOGG GOES TO FRANCE

While lobbying for tighter gun control in Canada, **Doreen Callaghan** shooting victim **Hayden Radhim** made no secret of the wounds he suffered on Sept. 15, 2006, when a long-range sniper fired at the Montreal CSIS, killing one student and injuring 19 others. But in France, as one of 15 contestants on the reality TV show *Secret Keepers*, Radhim has used the opportunity to speak with acquaintances of Hain's daughter, who lives nearby. "There's no age limit primary on Hain," said Zurduff. "People under pressure make mistakes." As war criminals go, Hain is slightly one of the nastiest. He was indicted after the war for murdering hundreds of prisoners at the Majdanek camp. In recent cases, he's allegedly injected poison into the hands of Jewish prisoners. Critics say that Hain's age lessens the legitimacy of the hunt, but Zurduff is determined. "If we put a limit on age that means we're saying you can get away with genocide, which is morally outrageous."





## THE BACK PAGES

tv

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film

Among the summer blockbusterers, it was just a blip. Journey to the Center of the Earth, a believably inventive sci-fi romp that finally Canadian-

Brendan Fraser, got real reviews and made just a modest dent at the box office—crushed by *Ally in the Field* in its opening weekend. Based on a 19th-century classic by Jules Verne, it may be shallow—the kind of raucous Disney-style movie where Will was still alive—but it plumbs new depths of cinema, and not just because its characters mired thousands of miles beneath the earth's core. *Journey to the Center of the Earth* is the first live-action narrative feature to be shot and projected in digital 3-D. And if the champions of this new technology are right, it could herald a revolution in storytelling on a par with the introduction of sound or color.

What's more, if you're going to believe that, 3-D first has a huge image problem to overcome. And it's not just about the clarity of its visuals, which are now quite satisfactory.

Traditionally, 3-D movies have been shot on 35 mm film using dual cameras—to simulate the binocular vision of our eyes—and shown with dual projectors. The colored glasses allow each eye to see just one side of the 3-D images, throwing the other, it's the brain that composes the 3-D illusion. But collecting two film projectors can be tempery, and the glasses also bleed some color from the image. Digital 3-D is shot with dual-video cameras, and the edited

cinema can shed the 3-D movie stigma. And the TV is also picking itself for the more sophisticated digital 3-D. Also why television has quietly sold over one million televisions with 3-D capability, even if many of those buying them are unaware of it—the "3-D Ready" sticker is just one more baffling high-tech label. Television manufacturers are currently entering a sales battle, so they're not exactly rushing to tell consumers that their brand-new flat-screen plasma models are also less because it's, uh, too flat. But 3-D may well be the new HD, if viewers can get beyond the psychological barriers of wearing glasses.

"When you look at sports on 3-D TV, it takes your breath away," says Andy Clausen, CEO of Jaleby Digital LLC, a production company devoted to producing live-action 3-D. "We can do sports in 3-D and we can do it."

There is, of course, the same chicken-and-egg issue that HD originally faced. "There was a time where the networks decided to bank HD footage so when HD became a reality they would have it available to release," says Clausen. They're not doing it yet. But Jaleby's founder, Steve Schiller, insists that broadcast

television is also picking itself for the more sophisticated digital 3-D. Also why television has quietly sold over one million televisions with 3-D capability, even if many of those buying them are unaware of it—the "3-D Ready" sticker is just one more baffling high-tech label. Television manufacturers are currently entering a sales battle, so they're not exactly rushing to tell consumers that their brand-new flat-screen plasma models are also less because it's, uh, too flat. But 3-D may well be the new HD, if viewers can get beyond the psychological barriers of wearing glasses.

# 3-D INVASION

The new glasses say it all. Movies are undergoing a revolution some say is on a par with the advent of sound. BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

ing No, the issue is 3-D film on stereoscopic cinema has been around for more than a century in various forms. Before Hollywood set its sights on 3-D, the technology was used for special effects, a trick of the industry industry as a redemptive solution with 3-D. Like a teenager experimenting with bad acid. The first big 3-D movie came through cinemas in the 1930s. Moviegoers put on those silly cardboard glasses with the red-and-blue celluloid lenses, and got a headache as heavy numbers and wavy lines came from the screen. 3-D became synonymous with 8 movie lengths. The last peaked in 1949 with *The Snowbirds*, a soft-core porn movie that was 3-D's biggest box office hit—and led to a string of SCTV parodies produced by Conan Doyle's *Maniac* (Clayton Kopp). The art, from Dr. Zerkow's 3-D *Planet of the Apes* to *Star Wars* to *3-D House of Wax*—the "reloading with 100 years of bad publicity about 3-D," admits Jonker Green, CEO of RealD 3D Inc., the world's leading supplier of 3-D technology. "Everyone thinks it's scary and yucky in your face and cheap cardboard glasses."

But the big reason in Hollywood is pinning that the new and improved in your face

movie as viewed as one huge computer file that allowed a single video-projection digital projector. The result is an image of accurate, unadorned clarity. And in place of the throw-away cardboard glasses, the audience wears groovy plastic shades that look like James Dean and fit over regular glasses. Their polarized lenses block out any stray light, allowing each eye to filter out the foreign standard for the other eye.

Now television is getting into the act too. This weekend the Disney Channel and ESPN Channel will air the *Macauli-Montana* *My Car* first of its kind World Concert Tour in 3-D. Although it played in digital 3-D in theaters, it will be broadcast in the old analog format, which requires the old-blue glasses. (Evening live events like rock, blues, or country are a game and unconvincing prize kids can go to its website and learn how to make their own glasses with cardboard,

cinema can adopt 3-D even more easily than HD. "HD was a more radical shift in terms of expense. You need no change to the local-off infrastructure to put 3-D on the home television." The first 3-D Blu-ray DVDs will be available by Christmas, he adds. And 3-D video games are already on the market.

If it ever hits the Super Bowl is broadcast in 3-D, that could be the tipping point. James Stewart, a Toronto 3-D filmmaker, says, "The Super Bowl push is so much of the big screen TV market. And once you see it in 3-D, you'll never watch it in 2-D again. It's better than bringing it to the front row." Which is what some critics and about 100,000 of the live-televised concert movie. The film's producer, Jaleby Digital, had originally planned a 3-D IMAX movie about the NFL and even shot test footage of the 2003 Super Bowl. Schiller adds that the NFL was won't do by the results. But as the

Cost: Production cost: \$10 million. Rating: PG-13.

projected, likely devoted to make the 3-D movie format, and refined its technology in the process.

Now Schiller is in negotiations with European and U.S. broadcasters to produce live stereoscopic broadcasts of sporting events. "Sports," he says, "is going to be the prime mover of 3-D TV." He predicts a European broadcast may embrace the medium before the Americans, but that a U.S. network will stage a live 3-D broadcast of a sport event by the end of the year.

But for the time being, 3-D's main actors



DIRECTOR James Stewart says 3-D will go beyond thrill rides like *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (left).

**'Once you see the Super Bowl in 3-D, you'll never watch 2-D again. It's better than the front row.'**



are in the big screen. IMAX has been showing 3-D at three points over seas: Michael Jackson teamed up with Ferrari, Ford Cypriote and George Lucas to make *Captain Jack* in 2006; in 2008, Universal Studios made a virtue of verbiage with 3-D concert rides based on *Transformers 2* and *Spider-Man*. James Cameron took the IMAX 3-D format overseas to shoot the Titanic's graveyard in his documentary *Ghosts of the Abyss* (2001).

In recent years, 3-D has consistently outperformed 2-D at the box office as a per-screen basis. Director Roberto Rodriguez made the first breakthrough in the multiplex with *Spider-Man 3* (2007), which employed Cameron's patented anamorphic. Although it was the second sequel of a dead franchise, and audiences had to wear the cheap cardboard glasses, it was the most lucrative of all three *Spider-Man* movies, grossing almost \$300 million worldwide. The studio took notice. The next year Warner Bros. distributed *Polar Express* in 3-D and 3-D IMAX screens (it grossed \$45 million on just 34 IMAX screens). Then Disney started out *Chicken Little* (2005) and *Mary and the Witches* (2007), the first animated features to get a general release in RealD digital theaters.

Meanwhile, a California firm called by

There is something 3-D movies into 3-D with a technique called "dimensionalization," not unlike the colorization of black and white. Graphic artists make every object in the frame and construct layers of imagery. Costing up to \$120,000 a minute, it's an expensive process but it's proved profitable for Tim Burton's *Nightmare Before Christmas*, which will be released in 3-D for the third year running in October. In *Three* is also fleshing out the combat in a dimensioned *Dr. Evil* after *Dead*, due next year. And it has received glowing test results from the likes of Spielberg, Peter Jackson and George Lucas—who hopes to release all his Star Wars movies in dimensional versions. In *Three* executive Neil Fiolman insists the process is nonglorious: "Our idea isn't to intrude and make you conscious of the 3-D. What we do is surround sound for the eyes. We try to convince you that you're in the seat."

For filmmakers, that extra dimension of depth introduces a whole new world of creative and technical challenges. Even around the new technology, some can't resist employing the old 3-D image process—specifically screen-giving effect that lunge into the audience. In the first few minutes

of *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, a scientist guides the audience with a noticeable track across that thickens into the theater. It's a gag. But with stereoscopic cinema, the rectangular screen becomes a box—a virtual proscenium stage—and by breaking the fourth wall, the perspective of disbelief is shattered. Even in live theaters, which is naturally three-dimensional, actors break that wall between their world and the audience at their peril.

It's easy to forget that 3-D cinema, like painting and photography, slowly incorporates the illusion of 3-D. It's called perspective. And it works. When the Lumiere brothers premiered the first motion pictures in 1895, some audience members found odd others out from the men in the right of the camera moving towards them. Ever since, whenever we question a movie's believability, the lack of stereoscopic depth is the issue of our concern. From the shower scene in *Pulp Fiction* to the wedding sequence in *Alvin*, 3-D movies have come to jump out of our seats. When a dinosaur sheds its eye by looking out of the screen in *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, it seems all too easy—suspense reduced to a glib carnival trick.

Whether making 3-D movies or theme park rides, 3-D directors tend to focus the purity and of the third dimension. They prefer to ambush viewers with public novelty rather than lure them in. Even though *Journey to the Center of the Earth* is literally about depth—about plunging into an abyss—this terrestrial world is a virtual dance, a subterranean sea cooed with living prehistoric the rise of pre-humans. But the most convincing shots are the more positive visual, like the scene of a boy suspended high above a chasm on a floating bridge of magnetic rocks.

Filmmakers seeking responsibility for 3-D

would be re-emphasized by the genre's influence on the hand effect. "You have the power to totally invade people's space," says Stewart. "But do you want to do that? You have to be very careful about how you put people on the face. The new philosophy is all about creating that sensory environment." *Answer* is: That's what the 3-D community does. In a Toronto editing suite, Stewart showed me a cut commercial he'd shot in 3-D for *Perpetua* (2007). There were no eye-popping effects. In fact, the footage was quite passive. Driver opens door. Camera pans into his interior. Aerial shot of car on the road. But in anamorphic 3-D, it was strangely mesmerizing.

Stewart says he recently screened *Die 3-D* for an audience that included director David Cronenberg. "He said he would love to see his house (film) in 3-D. And I told him he should direct something then." However, like many 3-D artists, Stewart believes the medium will spread beyond horror, action and animation to invade every form of filmmaking. "People always say, 'Why would you shoot *My Dinner with Andre* in 3-D?' But that film was all about giving you the feeling you were sitting at the table, and you'd feel you were even more at the table. After about 10 minutes of watching a 3-D film you really shouldn't be aware of the 3-D."

Hollywood, meanwhile, has grabbed onto 3-D as a spearhead to drive the digital conversion of theaters, which the studios are keen to accelerate. By distributing movies on computer file rather than disc manufacturing and shipping costs, they can save an estimated \$1 billion a year. And some 3-D filmmakers, like the director of *Avatar*, James Cameron, who made the upcoming sci-fi epic *Avatar* (2009) in 3-D, believe the format should co-exist with 2-D, not replace it. But Stewart still thinks 3-D is the biggest thing to hit movies since the talkies. "There's been just one revolution in the history of cinema. That's sound. The transition to color was an evolution, but it didn't transform the language of cinema. 3-D is a new language."

Stewart argues it will be radical that this goes to the granular of filmmaking. The current fashion for special effects, for instance, poses problems. "Fast-moving action sequences," he says, "are really hard to capture in 3-D. You get some strobing. You consider people physically sick. 3-D is intricate. You are the fly on the wall watching the scene happen around you." Which literally describes his movie in *Fly Me to the Moon*—but hitching a ride on the Apollo 11 moon rocket. "I never would have caught it in 3-D," he says.

The digital makeover of the multiplex is inevitable. "It will eventually trump 2-D," says Bill Jacob, CEO of Canada's Cineplex chain. "Digital's not going to change the moviegoer's experience dramatically—once people can't tell the difference. But 3-D is a significant shift."

Of Cineplex's 1,500 screens, as are now 3-D equipped, and by the end of next year Jacob expects that number to rise to 277. "There's a lot of opportunities with concerts and sporting events," he adds. "A. Rogers

"The Apollo 11 mission is actually producible but there's a four-minute space of that Apollo coming down the ladder of the space shuttle and blowing in the moon, and we see kids watching it with their mouths open."

Steve Schiller, however, believes that if 3-D is properly executed, it can be used just like 2-D. The secret, he says, is smoothing the shift in depth so movie audiences can't feel the viewer. Both *Fly Me to the Moon* and *Journey to the Center of the Earth* have some jarring moments, and I felt eye strain after both screenings. But Schiller says not one of the 300-plus reviews of *Die 3-D* men-

**'What we do is surround sound for the eyes. We try to convince you that you are on the set.'**



NIDS BELIEVES the 3-D novelty of *Avatar* (right) and *Fly Me to the Moon*.

gates in 3-D would be awesome."

Videos, especially sports, is demand to reproduce reality with unadorned precision. But cinema has an aesthetic tradition of abstracting or heightening reality. And some 3-D filmmakers, like the director of *Avatar*, James Cameron, who made the upcoming sci-fi epic *Avatar* (2009) in 3-D, believe the format should co-exist with 2-D, not replace it. But Stewart still thinks 3-D is the biggest thing to hit movies since the talkies. "There's been just one revolution in the history of cinema. That's sound. The transition to color was an evolution, but it didn't transform the language of cinema. 3-D is a new language."

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Fixed eye strain. "If you're sitting in the seat in space to another point in a single frame—1/24th of a second—you're eyes have to snap around in their sockets." He says "3-D is becoming comfortable in ways when we learned how to control the depth." The new 3-D technology has also been used by NASA for a parting the space shuttle and showing the surface of Mars, by the military for aerial surveillance, and by medical researchers for scanning the human body. But of course, there's another obvious application: that this technology to digital 3-D would suit big screen porn. The filmmaker organized a hand-on-eye party in LA and was not elected in a similar version for under analysis. (It's now being remade as a 3-D movie due next year.) And although Schiller's company doesn't touch porn, "I can tell you that not a day goes by when we don't get a call about it," he says. "There was the latter application for the US and the Internet. I know that when there's a home delivery system, people'll go to Sears and buy it. It's not 3-D."

He says not one of the 300-plus reviews of *Die 3-D* men-



THE EVILS OF sexism and repression? Some viewers are more interested in seeing a character like Don Draper out their shameful dreams.

## Why we can't be mad at 'Mad Men'

**Its creator wants to teach us a lesson about bad behaviour. It doesn't seem to be working.**

BY JAMES A. WEIRMAN • Is AMC's *Mad Men* an indictment of the early '60s American male, who smoked, drank, and sexually harassed women? Or is it a satire to a time when drinking, smoking and sexual harassment were normal? Matthew Weiner, the former *Sopranos* writer who created *Mad Men* (which was just nominated for 16 Emmy awards, including Best Drama), is not to reach on a lesson about how not to behave—he told a recent Television Critics Association panel that the first season was "gritty and gritty" and that the second season, beginning July 15, will make the first look "innocent" by comparison. But, unapologetically, he's also tapped into a vein of nostalgia for exactly the things he condemns on the show. And if *Mad Men* ever becomes a mainstream success, it may be because people agree to embrace and just enjoy the cool, meanies.

Weiner is famous for his obsession with getting everything '60s: detail right, from the clothes to the language to the language (this is the only current show where you can hear people say "well"), he once had his crew replace the apples in an actor's scene with fruit that looked like it was grown in the '60s. Weiner admitted to critics that part of his show's appeal is due to the glamour of the accoutrements and fashions. But he added that he also wants to convey the dark side of great style and bouffant hairdo. "We are always trying to put a poison into it. We are always trying to show the nagged material in the shiny and the wrinkles and the sweat stains." Every moment of every episode of *Mad Men* has something to remind us that early '60s glamour comes at a high price. The heavy smoking character matters about the new knowledge that smoking can kill you,

while women have to accept some remarks ("All the men's in the end") from their co-workers. The lead character, Don Draper (Jon Hamm), turns out to be an impostor who stole a dead man's name, in case we didn't get the message that everybody is pretending to be something they're not, while his trophy wife, Betty (January Jones), is full of repressed rage at the life of an early '60s housewife, and can vent only by grabbing a BB gun and shooting the neighbour's pigeons. *Mad Men* constantly reminds us that it's an antidote to nostalgia. The question is, do its viewers really see it that way?

Susanah Berlin, a freelance writer who blogs at [www.susanah.com](http://www.susanah.com), thinks not. She created some controversy when she wrote that "Mad Men is man porn" and in an interview with *Mad Men*, the actor said that the show "imitates the era before the advent of political correctness, offering up a fantasy of a time when men were men, women were women, and politically incorrect language wasn't only permissible but desirable." In this view, the substance of *Mad Men* isn't really interesting as to what Matthew Weiner wants to tell them about the evils of sexism and repression. Instead, they get to see a character like Don Draper out their shameful dreams.

You could say that this makes *Mad Men* the logical successor to *The Sopranos*, even if

HBO didn't see it that way (they turned *Mad Men* down). The *Sopranos* had the same kind of double-edged appeal, making the mob life seem glamorous and macho even while it kept reminding us how bad Tony Soprano's life really was. Berlin thinks that these shows "include a kind of disavowal of the past—now in the case of *Mad Men*, or culture in the case of *The Sopranos*—so as to diminish the pull for the male viewer." You can also throw in other cable cult throwbacks like *Deadwood*, where our enjoyment of the frontier lifestyle was tempered by constant reminders that that lifestyle was unpleasant. These shows are like those Hollywood biblical epics in which we get to enjoy a graphic rape followed by a lesson on why rape is bad. Don Draper may live a lie, but if we didn't enjoy that lie, we wouldn't be watching.

Since AMC wants to get more women for *Mad Men*, the first season was noticeably successful, but not enough to qualify as a hit—so publicity people are pushing the idea that the show is a cool '60s throwback, they're putting up retro-looking billboards and handing out martini glasses as gifts. Even the DVD of the first season is in a box that looks like a cigarette lighter. Maybe the publicity is right about what can attract people to *Mad Men*. As Angela Walker wrote in the *Washington City Paper* about watching it with an actual man: "I could see my boyfriend salivating at the idea of being cooked meat and a fifth in his desk drawer." ■



ACCORDING TO TV: THAT NEW YORKER COVER "Diane's being ignored the cartoon was offensive. 'No one was your response should have been' Barack Obama is in no way worse than the cartoon depicts him as a Muslim extremist. Who gets a special 'no one' cartoon? Muslim extremists!" —Jon Stewart "Barack Obama says that he worries about everybody in America who might lose their job—unless they work for The New Yorker!" —Joy Lane

PHOTOGRAPH BY ADAM COHEN



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HERITAGE CORN breeder Vic Kump has 'different colored corn, from white to black.' The range of flavors, he says, is also

## Desperately seeking corn smut

**It's a fungus that gives corn 'kind of like a mushroom' taste, but good luck finding it**

**BY PAMELA CUTLER** • There's always a market for sweat. At least that's what some well-regimented growers of true corn are finding. Heritage corn varieties today are passed over because they just don't have the supercharged sugar of modern hybrid like peaches and cream. But elixirs know better: traditional cobs are the ones more likely to catch a fungus called corn sweat, and then they turn into black gold.

Ontario's wheat, most of Canada's sweet corn is grown for the summertime ritual of boiling and then smothering with soft butter. It's here that farmer Les Bessinger of Cedar Grove Farm, northeast of Pelee Island, Ont., can't find buyers for what he calls the "Wall, corn flowered" kernels of the heritage breed Golden Bantams—"the corn everyone was eating 300-40 years ago." Yet when Bessinger's crops become contaminated with insect, it's a sure sign of rain from heaven. "A corn plant ought bring me 50 cents, if it could sell it," he says. "That same plant with insect will bring me \$10."

Corn wheat is a popular treat in Mexico where it is encouraged, something like how winemakers use noble rot on grapes to produce fine sweet wines. The colored kernels of the cob itself and turn silver on the outside and coal-colored on the inside. In Toronto, Canada's Chris McDonald, an aficionado of Mexican and Latin cuisines, is on the hunt for it. "It tastes kind of like a mushroom but has a certain more like crunchiness. Besides, black foods are interesting and there aren't a lot of them around."

McDonald's likes to waste the crust and serve it—when he can find it. "It's really hard to come by." The fungus north of Mexico remains elusive in spite of attempts in the '80s and '90s to make it more accessible, as

part through a USDA-led program and a PR campaign to name it the Mexican traffic. "You have to find someone willing enough to farm corn organically for it," explains McDonald. And since the modern hybrids are less susceptible, adds Bowser, you need farms that work with the old varieties.

But what if hairless tomatoes, lacking carotenoid isoflavones, are to be easily undetectable? Why? Any Stream of Sensory Fun in Corn? Or, has been researching the history of sweet corn. In 1934, a small, white, sweet corn, called "Dent", was introduced. It was a new variety of sweet corn, called "Dent", which was a new variety of sweet corn, called "Dent", which was a new variety of sweet corn, called "Dent".

But even without arrest, manufacturers say heritage corn beats the more recently developed corn varieties. Garrett Fritinger, the former president of Seeds of Diversity, believes that "open pollinated" corn varieties—traditional and heirloom seeds—as opposed to commercial hybrids—need protecting. Working near Caliente, Nev., he has, for decades,

wounded over a variety of white cars called Luther Hill that he grew up with on his New Jersey family farm. "The cars is beyond comparison. But the only way you can cut it is if you grow it yourself" Passenger, feeling alone in his mission, challenged: "Find me someone out there selling you a pollinated car, and I'll call you a liar"

He has met his match: Grassroots Organics owner Sean McGivern, who specializes in organic certified heritage grains in Owen Sound, Ont., is growing these open pollinated grains from on 300 acres this year, including one for the table. McGivern sells the goods on his farm and he plans to expand his stock of specialty corn to eight varieties next year.

Ontario's mortgage.com founder and former Vice President and his wife run a small seed company and mill for grinding their own corn near Stratford, Ont. The range of flavors that can be varietal is wild, says Kasey. "We have different color and sizes, from white to black and something I call John Deere green. Our open pollinated corn flour has a bit of the in it. It's an amazing little bit peanut butter."

In the meantime, McDonald is hoping for a consistent supply of corn this year. He jokes that while celebrity chef Rick Bayless of Chicago's Topolobampo overwears the apron by calling the corn *Elly Corn* (Mushrooms, he prefers to call it) like a "90's called ketchup, or "4 of the gods" in the Aztec language, Nahuatl. And it'll be a happy man if corn finds it.

TODAY'S SPECIAL... BRECKEN-RITE ENERGY DRINK

Featured in the new live-action comedy *Dope*, Thudor, a fictitious energy drink called Booty Sweet is becoming a reality. The gross-out name disguises the fact that the drink Paramount Pictures is going to market alongside the movie is flavored like cherry soda. Says a Paramount consumer-products executive, "We're very excited, because it has the potential to live for quite a while, well beyond the film."



**FIELD OF BROKEN DEBARS** Playing single club in Mullingar, Carroll. Outing is a doublet whose wife will decide the 148 residents.

## Oops, did I just say 'comeback'?

**Kevin Costner is on an upswing with 'Swing Vote,' but he still denies there was a slump**

**BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON** • When talking to an actor, especially a movie star, "come back" is a dangerous word to flash into the conversation.

action, no matter how generous the amount behind it. Recently I sat down with Kevin Costner, who was in Toronto to promote *Spring Walk*, a broad political comedy that he produced. He seemed drunk on joy that he wrote, through a hellish boss (Bale), will decide the fate of a presidential election. The movie, and his performance, are better than they have any right to be. But when it's all over, that *Spring Walk* movie a comedy, this 33-year-old actor looks puzzled. A comic-book implies there has been a mishap. And an actor wants to admit he's been in a show

But Costner's lion-offer conspiracy has undergone more wild swing: Barring a string of home runs during the late 1980s—*The Untouchables*, *Bull Durham*, *Field of Dreams*, and the Oscar-winning directorial coup, *Dances with Wolves*—this former athlete emerged as the Gary Cooper of the genre, not a romantic war hero, as indicated

great charisma and magnetic loquacity. Then he counterfeited his heroic currency as Robin Hood, *Prince of Thieves* (1991). And with the epic disappointments of *Blade* (1995) and *The Peacemaker* (1997), his rugged individual uniform began to look like tarnished helix.

But three years ago, in a deft cinematic drama called *The Upside of Anger*, Cooney revealed another side of himself as a married bullplayer stuck in a middle-aged rut of drabness and bad luck. He autographs baseballs, fields calls from fans on a radio phone-in show—and sheepishly pursues an alcoholic fling with the single mom next door (Joan Allen). This wistful portrait of a washed-up celebrity came right out of left field—and

seemed a bold move for a major league star who had heretofore unceremoniously stepped from Hollywood's A-list.

If *The Upends of Anger* was an undisputed crowd-pleaser, *Cavaler* drives home its premise on *Song Row*, playing another family loser who keeps ending up with a bangover as a stark contrast of the American Dream. Cavaler stars in *Bad*, a semi-southern disaster whodunit from his job as a New Mexico city factory. Doctor on a medical plane, a disaster day, his belief is: "I'm sorry, you're a person, your daughter (Madeline Cavaler) fails to register. He's given a chance to re-visit, but the race is too tight that the first of the possibility will hinge on his choice. Bad becomes an instant classic, the best of the best of *Warner* comedies by the Republics Incubator (Richard Green). *Happy*! Despite the fact that *Happy* (Hopper) is the first of the *Happy* series. Contrasts with an emotional depth that isn't even found in the *Warner*, elevating *Happy* from a *Cavaler* failure to a *Warner* old film of *Warner*.

is that not a comeback? When Concar proceeds not to answer the question, I suggest, metaphorically, that his error has had some up-and-downs. "That's all poetry now," he counters. "The perspective is fixed absolutely with monetary [value]. If you're going to live your life by the numbers, you

can have what you call your ups and downs. I'm confident of what you're saying, but you're dealing with a network. I don't score movies that way. I understood every movie I tried to make, so I feel good about that."

Really? Does he feel good about the much-reviled *Waterworld*? And what about *The Postman*, which is regarded as his own personal Heaven's Gate? "A lot of people thought *Waterworld* didn't make any money but it did. So what am I supposed to say about that? I liked *The Postman*. It is a weird movie," Bush, his every movie, "I've made his face, so it's

What is Coover going to do with his Hollywood career that he's willing to take risks with his career, and his own marital life depends on his independence as of this life, and even? "I've got to blur my own trail," he says, "or you'll just going to look at the rough. Looking at the rough can get you pretty bad. But I believe to get up over some." **Web:** "A \$10-million award was given by writer-director Joshua Michael Stern." "Was anyone I stumbled upon," he says. "I wasn't going to be made. It wasn't helped because I didn't want to have an interview on tape. I didn't enough that I thought I would make it, regardless, is the point that I finished it. Disney later came on board and now, he adds, "I think I'm poised to be in a good spot."

**ON THE WEB:** For a video of the casting interview, visit [www.sciences.ca/poster](http://www.sciences.ca/poster)

## WE'D BE STALKING... MEANS TROUBLE

The man who plays Dr. Evil's Mid-We In The Austin Powers movies has settled a US\$20-million lawsuit against a gossip website and pornographer, who tried to release a sex tape involving the actor and his co-girlfriend Nicole Kidman. That's right, but there's the business of negotiating Strider's exit—she's the one who leaked the sex tape and the still lives in Trooper's house, a situation that he says "makes it even harder, you know, not to obsess on her."





NO MORE! NO MORE! In the 1961 movie *One Tree Town*, a suspect is subjected to the Big Boy Franty Heavy Yellow Polka Dot Jail!

## Should torturers pay royalties?

**Some people still think music used as a form of torture is one big joke, like in the movies**

**BY JAMIE J. WEINMAN** • Inmate torture? And more importantly, do torturers owe royalties for the music they use? Earlier this month, singer David Gray told the BBC that he objected to the use of his semi-autobiographical *Woolly Love* in interrogations at the Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghuray prisons, adding that music can be torture no matter what kind it is. "It could be Schubert's finest or it could be [torture] the [torture]... it really does matter, it's going to drive you completely nuts." Much of the reaction consisted of snarky jokes about Gray's music: Carlin Nassi wrote in the *London Times* that "reaction to Gray being used in Guantanamo has been fairly amusing. In that everyone has found it delicious." That's nothing new when musical torture is the subject of a movie or film, it usually amuses. Except that because it sounds like music doesn't mean it's not true. And it might not be so funny in real life.

Medical torture pays have been a particularly popular genre in movie comedy. The most famous version of this plot is from Billy Wilder's *One Tree Town* (1961), in which the Bar Groom Conscientious Nurse is suspected of repeatedly playing the song *Big Boy Franty Heavy Yellow Polka Dot Jail*. The suspect finally breaks down when his armrest plays the record. A Soviet-made record player that plays everything back at the wrong speed. *Woolly Love* isn't a terrible plot in its movie format, except with the opera song *Some Hearted Man*.

This jokes date from a period when music wasn't frequently used as a weapon, except in a way of honoring or lowering morale. Now it's used as a weapon, but it's not used in a way of honoring or lowering morale. Now it's used as a weapon, but it's not used in a way of honoring or lowering morale. Now it's used as a weapon, but it's not used in a way of honoring or lowering morale.

increasingly real. Suzanne G. Conick, senior editor at NYU, wrote a piece for the *Journal of the Society for American Music* in which she mentioned, among other examples, a prisoner who in 2002 and 2003 was forced into listening to music by the CIA. "The CIA used to listen to music by Eminem and De La Soul for 20 days." A writer for *Mother Jones* magazine mentioned that songs by Neil Diamond and Metallica are also on the "inmate playlist." Not like music torture is a strange occurrence in the old jobs from the movies, since prisoners really are forced to listen to songs they hate. Characters named *One Tree Town* is a sequel to *Big Boy Franty Heavy Yellow Polka Dot Jail*.

There's a simple reason why music can be a torture device: music is, eventually, noise, and noise can cause pain. Loud music can make a person feel disoriented and make him want to do anything to stop it, both of which can go a long way toward getting a confession. Turn the volume up high and blast the sounds at an unwilling person, and music becomes an almost ideal interrogation technique. It's not like torture is new to the breaking point, but it's not like any physical pain. Conick cites it as an example of what is serious about "the coach torture."



**AMBER MANN... HAS SOMETHING TO SAY**  
You've got a lot of money, but you can't afford the freeway. / You want to drive County lanes an awful lot of freeway. / When someone is a doctor or a scientist in real life, / They'll tell you if the spread you want if you can take the freeway. / You drive it, / I know it. / Why don't you just show it. / You got a lot of money, but you can't afford the freeway—freeway from Amber Mann's new album, *AMBER* • Smilers



THE BOURS' are strongly warned there is to be no preaching or converting; they are only to tell their stories and answer questions

## I'd like to renew Lesbian Feminist

**Living Libraries lend out people instead of books. The aim is to overcome prejudices.**

**BY PATRICIA WYER** • At a Living Library held at the end of May in London, the 26 "books" available for loan included Frances Dineen, Whore, Indian Advisor, and Post-Op Transgender Person, not to mention Irish Traveller. What the library's informative titles don't convey is that the books were actual humans. Living Libraries allow "readers" to have a candid chat with people (referred to as books) they'd normally never meet. The process, from unloading the catalogue to taking out the book, mirrors a real library. But the intent is to overcome stereotypes and prejudice. The organizer in London, Anne Kirby, advised readers to "choose a book to reflect their curiosity." By the time the "reading" is over, and to that end the books wear T-shirts with the slogan "What's Your Prejudice?" and the catalogue descriptions attached to each book's cover. Kirby, for example, included "Asian," "homophobic," and "bitchy."

Readers know they can speak privately in a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental way. No question is off limits. As an April event in London, an Anglican minister curious about same-sex marriage borrowed Gay Men. Among the 104 London Library patrons in May were two young men who became as engaged in a conversation with Police Officer. They renewed their times. The most popular title, *Do I Have a Penis*, was exhausted at the end of day of 10 men and 10 women.

The Living Library's origins trace back to Copenhagen where Børge Børge, then a 36-year-old student, and some friends set up an NGO called *Stop the Violence* after a friend was brutally stabbed in 1999. Forty thousand men joined the NGO, which used peer group

education to stop kids from carrying knives. From then the group came up with the Living Library. According to Kirby, the press as a whole is a bit simpler: "If people talk to each other, they'll understand each other better. And with understanding comes better tolerance." Kirby's group rolled out the concept at a Danish festival in 2000 with 75 books. "We felt the worst that could happen is that books would talk to each other," Kirby said. It was a roaring success and in four years have been 100 events in 21 countries.

For Douglas College, in New Westminster, B.C., creating a Living Library was a way to "move ahead with the community," explains organizer Heidi Posters. Instead of dealing with prejudices, the college's catalogue aims to be educational, with titles like *Swedish Glam* and *Insider Broke*. Heidi Currie, a community arts worker, signed on to her specialty, Mental Health Law and Policy, and was loaned out last year to a woman with psychiatric issues in her family. New Posters is in discussions with the *Coastal Public Library* to make the two-year old Living Library, now only available through the college website, even more accessible.

Libraries around the world have used the idea. In Australia, the *London City Library* runs a monthly series. For July 13, books, including *Madness*, *Adopted*, and *Lon-*

don Feminist, from a catalogue of nearly 60 titles, were available. The books, only identified by their black spines, are printed with "book" in red ink, with their readers in a one-story room set up with chairs and privacy partitions. Reader Victoria Malinich borrowed *Swedish Glam* with AIDS. While Malinich admitted it was challenging to sit down to speak to someone who had different experiences, she found her book willing to answer all of her questions about the disease. Conscience can come from the outside of encounters. While talking with a fellow book, *Swedish Glam*, reader book John Jessup, who is visually impaired, read the book just a few hours away.

The concept, extended to school and university libraries, has been a hit in London, a small industrial city 100 miles from Brisbane, that librarian Leah Binkley has been guest at. The success in Australia is the common reason for the books. There, says Kirby, participants are strongly warned that there is to be no preaching or converting; the books are only to tell their stories and answer questions.

Amber Mann has been a hit in a real life to convert those with concrete prejudices, whether against police officers or refugees, but even if it's only the first mind-blowing to the life mind-blowing, "dialogue creates understanding, tolerance and harmony." And he has no plans to stop promoting Living Libraries. "Once it's global I can sit down and read it." ■



**HOT IMPROVED PATRICK SWAYZE**  
Despite suffering from one of the deadliest of all cancers—pancreatic—the *Rocky Horror* star emerged on the weekend looking markedly improved, thanks to chemo and radiotherapy treatments, as well as a million-dollar Swayze. It should be noted in a physically demanding new television series, *The Shield*, he'll need all the strength he can muster. But as he told a reporter, "I'm a resilient dude."

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by all means keep pressing the button.

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Look at above you, you'll find both a reading light (Surcharge Surcharge applies) and a flight attendant, simply press the button and wait. Then press it again. Around this time you'll figure out that most of our "flight attendants" are in fact previous meal card holders can out from the Loosest runner. But

St. John's, maybe you're in Montreal. Who says modern travel looks expensive?

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